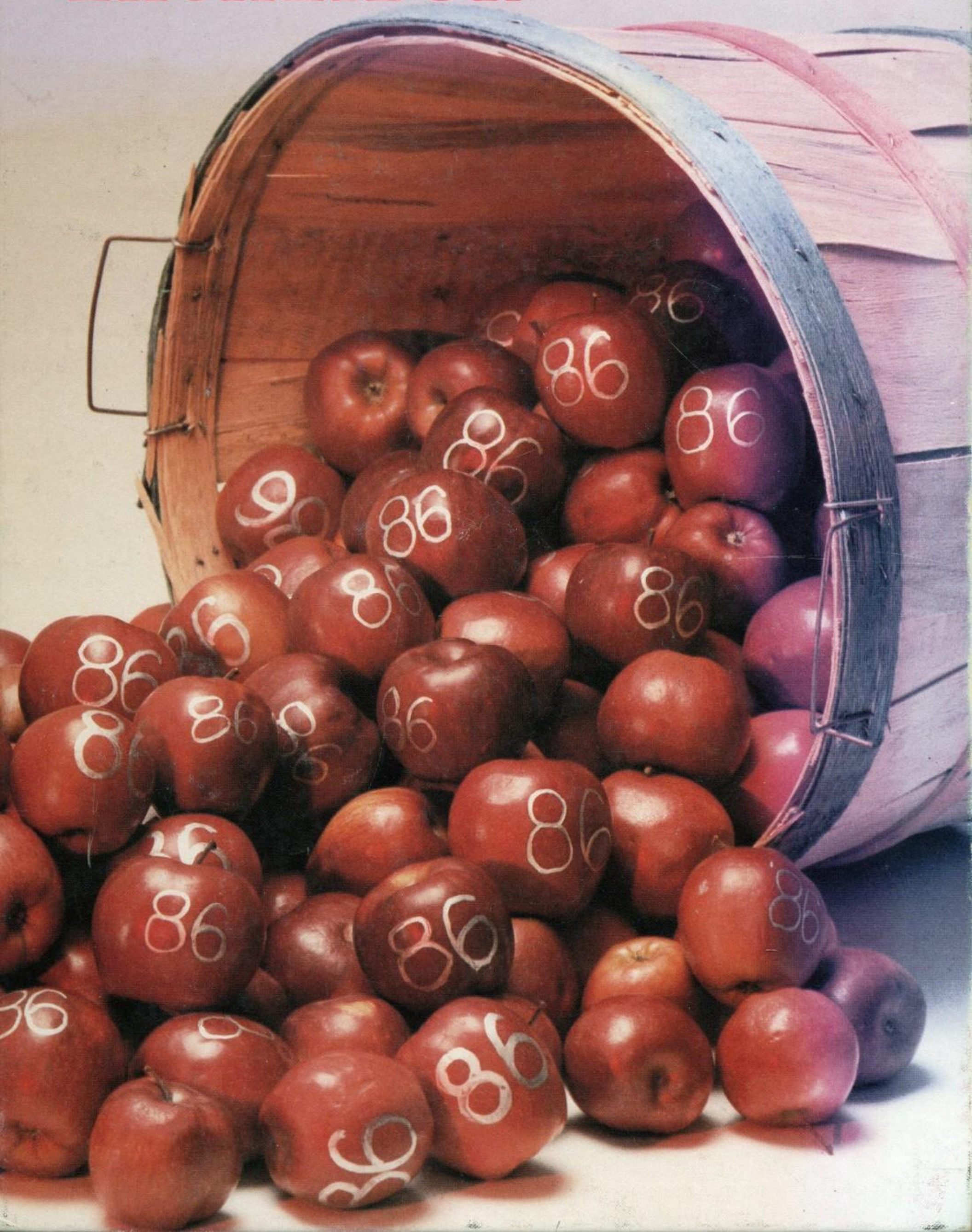
EXCALIBUR



Christy,
Well, I got the exciting job of being the first one to write in this. Well, the most I can say is that I'm super glad that I got to know you. I like knowing that your some-one I can go to whenever I have a problem. Exspecially with Dave. I hope were freinds forever + I hope that one of these days we can kick amy Golemans butt! You know we will! Band has been a blast these past 4 years + the next 2 will continue - We'll make sure of that. Well, I've loved this time that I've gotten to write in here + I'm sure you'd like other people to write here too (so I'd better go. Never forget me as we go off to our own worlds (Pluto + Jupiter). Good luck always.

Dave
-N-
Carissa

Carissa
-N-
Dave

Love
Boomer
"Carissa Baxter"

'89' P.S. Did I write enough for you?

Christy
It's Bad Real!
[illegible]

Christy,
To a real weird and great friend. Who I'll Remember forever I'll always Remember July 4th + Yaw Scott + Grant. nana We Have to Party together Real soon. And Get DRUNK But I don't do that anymore so I guess we can't. Oh well

Yeah Right

Love + friendship
Your Band
Buddy
Teresa [illegible]

Christy:
We struggled through algebra together last year that alone says something about us! We're nuts! I had a great year. never forget Lima with Eric! eeew!

Luv, Kristen

Christy,
To one of my
friend that I
love. Stay as
sweet and be
good and you will
practicing your peep
your B.J. Make sure you peep
have great high school years, and
Next level you and so do.
Love ya
JH

Christy
To my best drinking buddy!!
I will always love and be your
Friend, anytime you need anything
Just ask I'll be there.

Christy,
To a sweet & cute friend
crazy friend that I've known for a long time
to be with. Just think, only 2 more
years to hard camp! Good luck in the future
with everything you do. Stay sweet.
Love ya,
Wendy
"89"

Christy,
To a sweet & cute friend
I've known for a long time
To be an adorable but odd
the year. Oh well. Good luck
in anything & everything you do!
Love,
Kim O.
P.S.
Stay sweet
Stay cool
And don't let anyone give you any crap.

Christy,
Remember
Remember
Remember
Summer month ... 63 ... D.C.
Chuckpunch month ... Smith
Chuckpunch month ... Goodman
Chuckpunch month ... Bunkhumm
Chuckpunch month ... Bunkhumm
Chuckpunch month ... Bunkhumm

EXCALIBUR

Van Wert High School
Van Wert, Ohio 45891
Volume LXVIII

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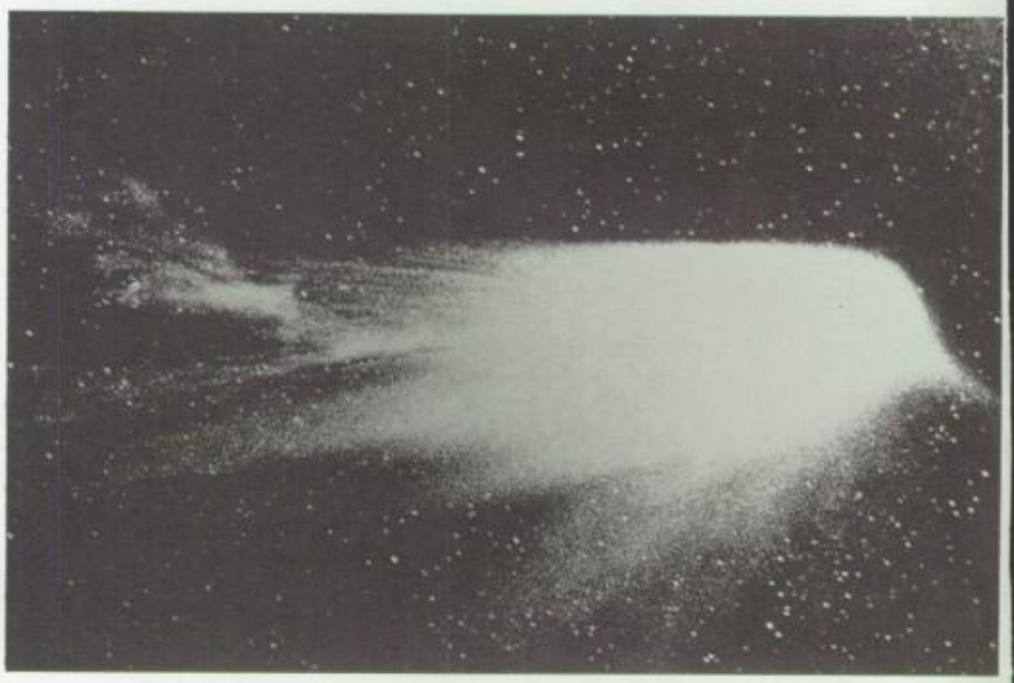
Many fascinating experiences captured the apple of the eye during the 1986 year. Putting away summer dreams, students settled back into the school routine, and the year blossomed with many special events and individual accomplishments at Van Wert High School. Freshmen accepted their new home for the next for years, while sophomores peeled into the main stream of events. The nucleus of the high school's happenings involved juniors; however, the core of the action centered around seniors.

Collectively, the school year was represented by a bushel of apples, with each milestone as another addition to the group. As the school year progressed, the collection of events expanded to encompass more and more students. This continued until it culminated with the commencement exercises, signifying the end of another year and the beginning of a lifetime of achievements for the graduate.

The Apple Of The Eye



Halley's Comet lights the 1986 sky.

Percussionists energize for show.

An apple a day would keep the doctor away!

Yoshiko Nakayama, an exchange student from Japan, displays her native tongue in her apple sketch.

VW students participate in Hands Across America.

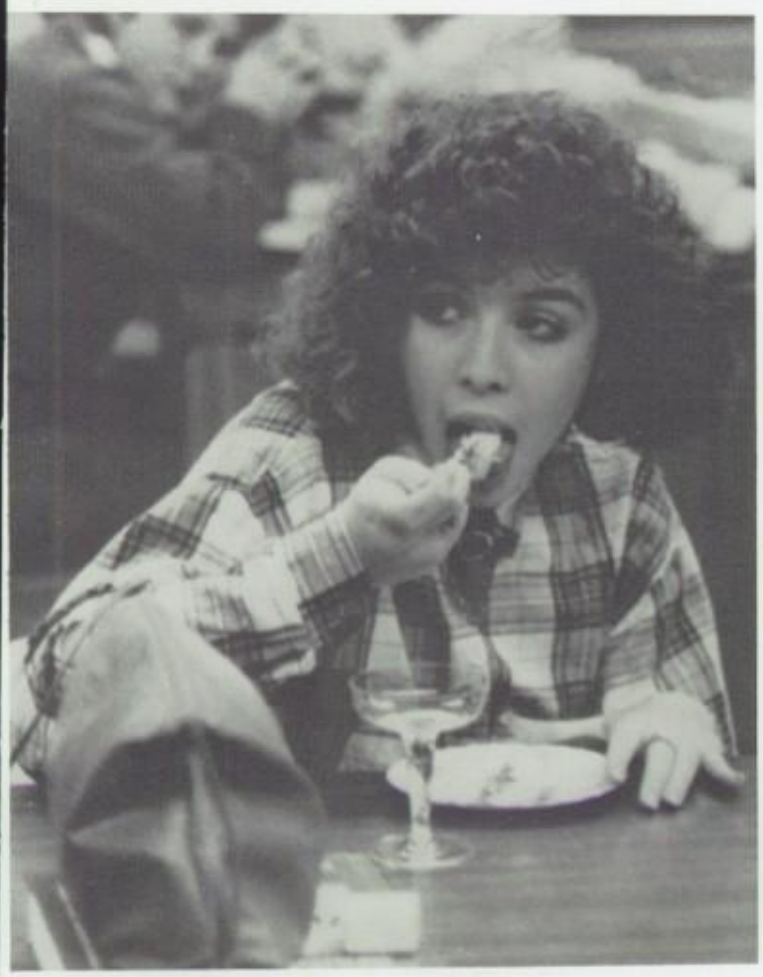
S. Purmort relaxes with her apple and Chevrolet.

Connie. A Cuisinart is quicker.

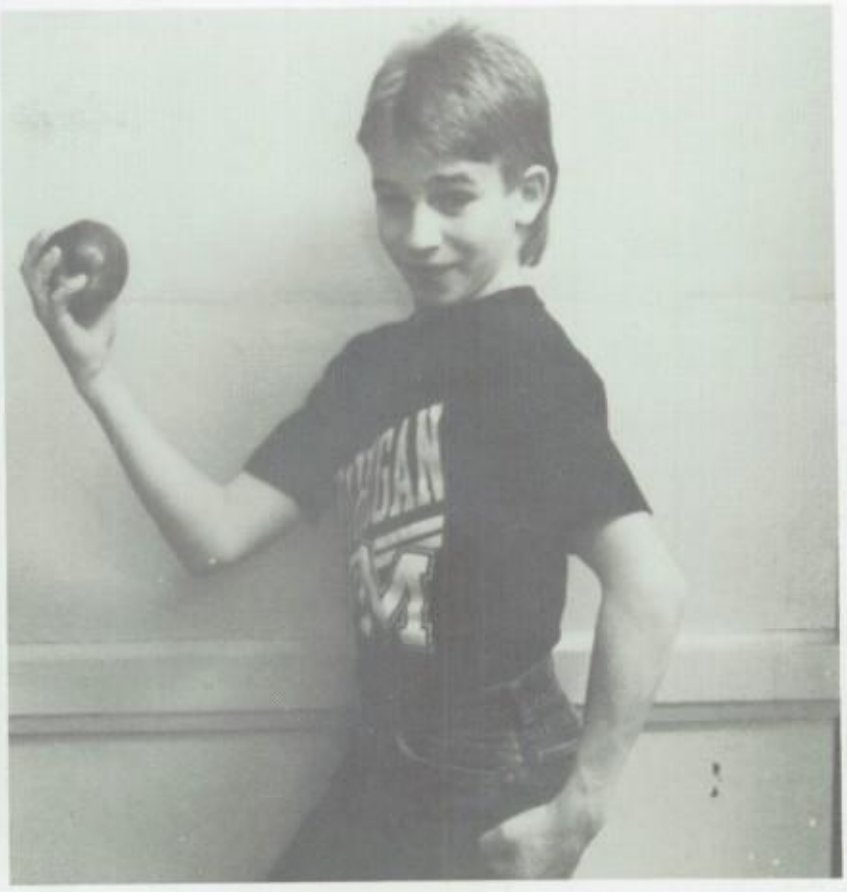
J. Detwiler catches the Pepsi spirit.

M. Potter gets to the core of it.

They are as American as apple pie.



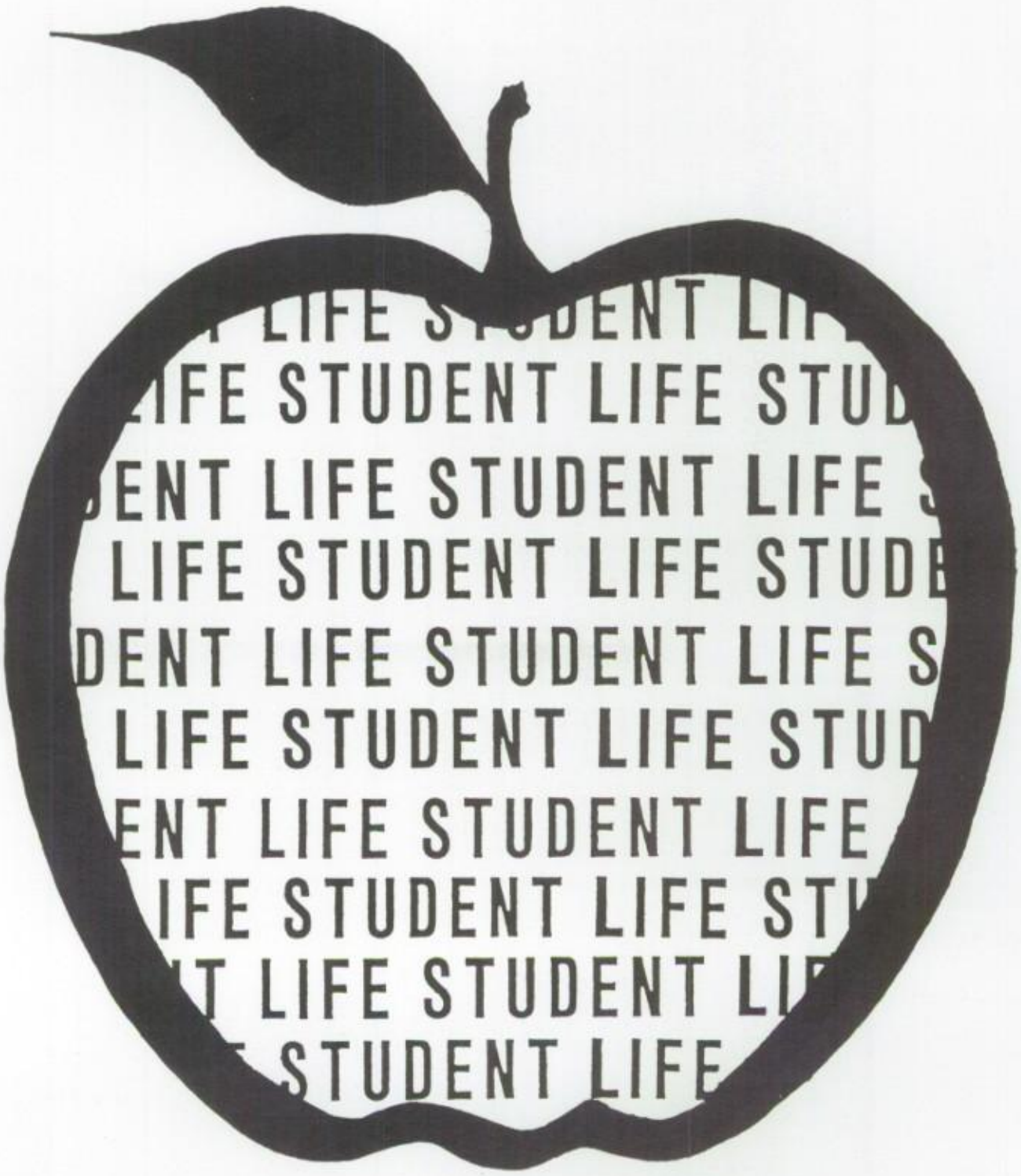
M. Fields opens wide for cake.



Apple power strengthens "Mont."

T. Uncapher loves worms, but that apple has a hole.

Mr. Swank displays his acting talent.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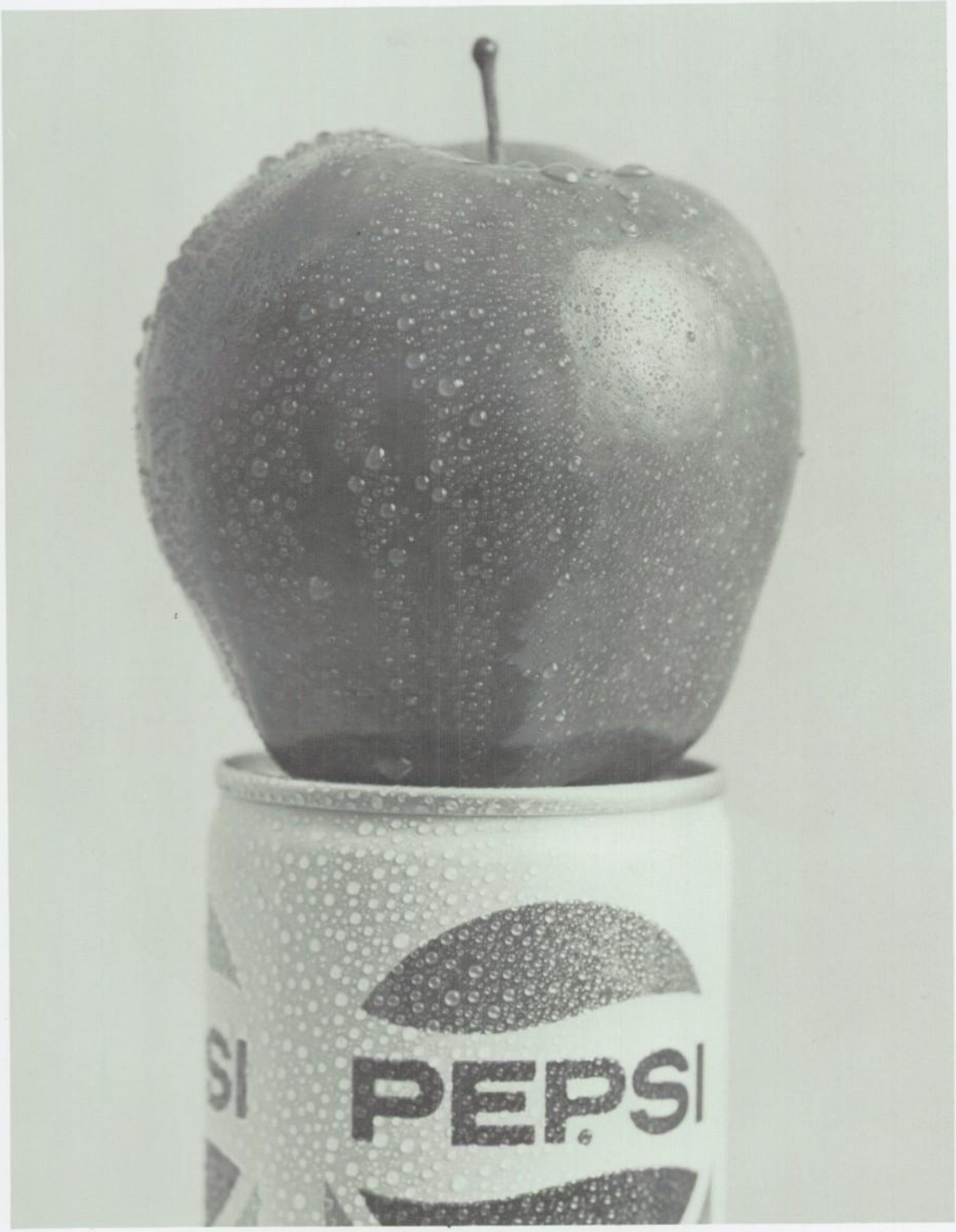

PEPSI

The V.W.H.S. Administration And Faculty

Board of Education: Mrs. Schumm, Mr. Patsiavos, Mrs. Follas, Dr. Gordon, Mr. Goedde, Mrs. Brubaker, and Dr. Jeffery.

Mr. Buti prepares a morning announcement.

Mr. B. Edinger rescues the copy machine.

Secretaries: Mrs. Shell, Mrs. Ruddock, Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Schumm, Mrs. Whitacre, Mr. Dixon.

Administration: Mr. Grimm and Mr. Swank.

Foreign Language: Mr. Lianez, Mr. Kalkreuth, Mrs. Reitzel, and Mrs. Sipe.

Mr. Schilb boogies.

English: Mr. McGonnell, Mr. McGonagle, Mr. Eickholt, Mr. Brown, Mrs. Sipe, Mrs. Stoller, Miss Flory, Mrs. Sullivan, and Miss Clark.

Science: Mr. Buti, Mr. Smelser, Miss Morrison, Mr. B. Edinger, Mr. T. Edinger.

Teachers discuss foreign fads.

Van Wert High School Faculty

Physical Education and Driver's Education: Miss Hurless, Mr. Bader, Mr. Smelser, Mr. Kleman.

Music: Mr. Alessandrini and Mr. Schaufelberger

Mr. Smelser gets the latest gossip.

Smile, Miss Kelly; it's not so bad!

Home Economics and Industrial Arts: Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Hurless, Mr. Thomas, and Mr. Manken.

Pupil Personnel: Mr. Hendricks, and Mr. Mosier.

Math: Miss Haller, Mr. Noftz, Mr. Kleman, Mr. Butler, Mr. T. Edinger.

Mrs. Brown aids a sewing student.

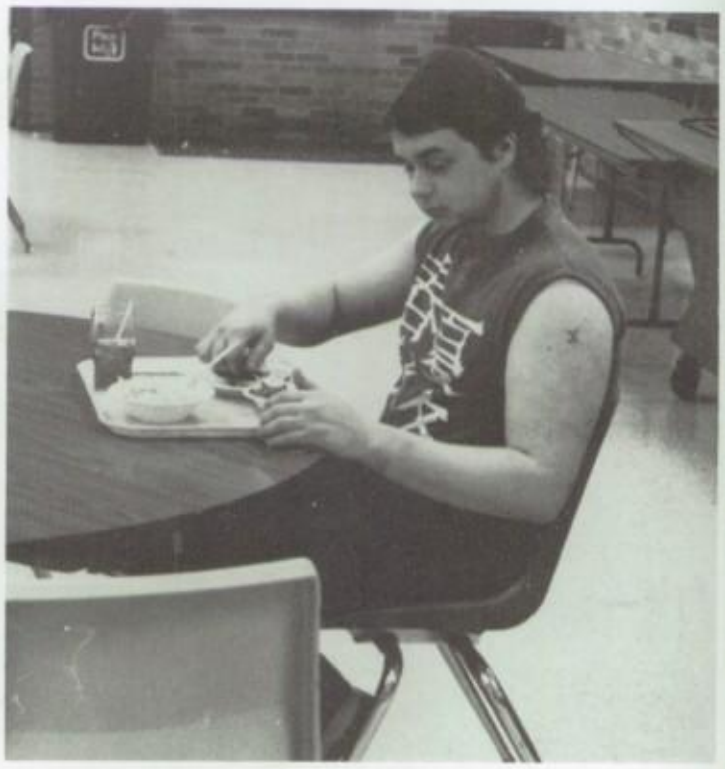
Business and Special Education: Mr. Stalter, Mr. Ramsey, Mr. Sullivan, Mrs. Simon, Mrs. Stemen.

C. Partin prepares for a related class.

L. Casarez, what are you doing?

Lunchtime at Vantage is a time to relax with friends.

In an auto body class, T. Buzzard works on a car door.



During his class in machine trades, junior M. Mercer works on a milling project.

Vantage Offers Special Training With Latest State Of-The-Art Equipment

Life at Vantage provided Van Wert students with a valuable background in both academic education and practical skills. Because Vantage offered the most recent state-of-the art equipment, students received excellent training for their future careers. In the near future, as many as eighty percent of all jobs will require technical training. Vantage, then, has directed its service to meet the needs of many employees-to-be.

A major event at Vantage during the year was the Open House, held on the evening of January 27th. The major focus of this Open House was to showcase the various departments and the work of the students within those departments. A Trade Fair was held in conjunction with the Open House. For this, many of the industries of the Vantage school districts displayed products in booths. As a joint venture, the Open House drew a large crowd of both students and adults.

P. Bates visits the Open House.

Seniors Make It Happen

During Homecoming, J. Gerold escorts J. Linser, senior attendant.

Senior Class Officers: C. Turnwald, Vice President; B. Debbe, President; M. Lupton, Treasurer.

On a trip to Findlay, several senior girls express their individuality.

Now what did Jeff say?

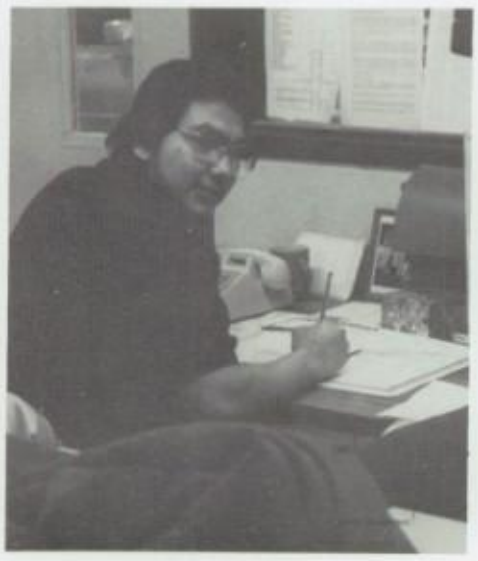
Wake up, Wes!

The Junior Class Moves One Step Closer

Junior majorette K. Arn performs during halftime.

Junior Class Officers: J. Witten, Vice President; T. Butler, Secretary; C. Grimm, Treasurer; M. Moraw, President.

M. Roth prepares to defend a statement he made.



Junior girls pose during Family Living.

Sophomores Settle Into Life At V.W.H.S.

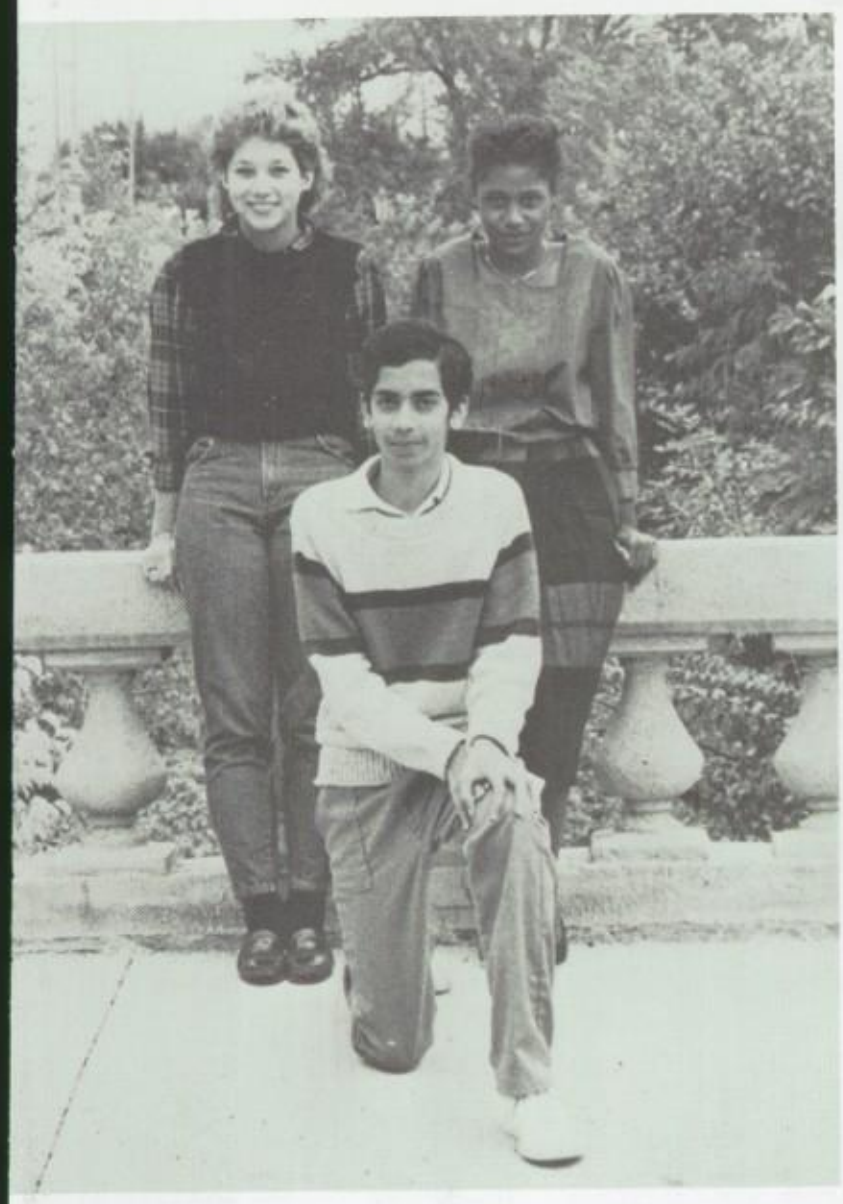
Sophomore Class Officers: B. Fawcett, Vice President; S. Heffner, President; B. Greve, Treasurer; T. Werth, Secretary.

For sophomores, outside gym class provides a break.

Mr. Cool, M. Wise

Sophomore English students pose for the camera.

Freshman Year . . .
A Year Of Discovery



Freshmen Class Officers: J. Worthington, Vice President; A. Wilkerson, President; G. Cherukuri, Treasurer.

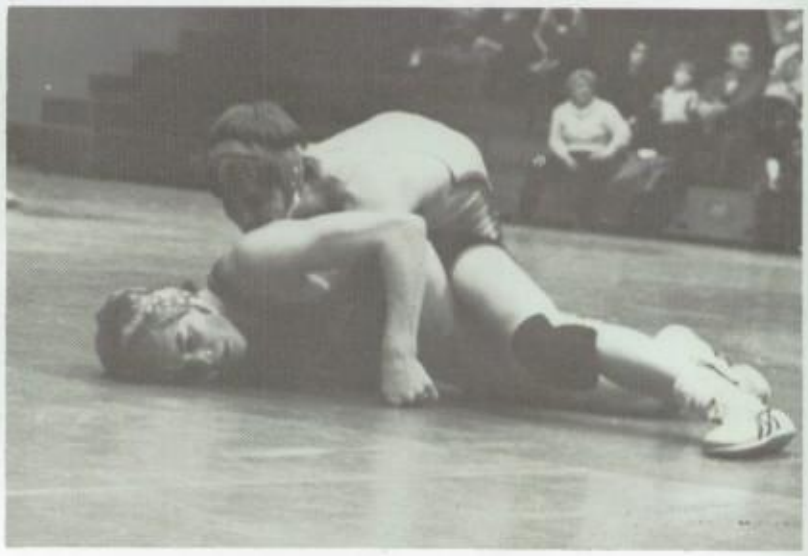
Freshmen gather in the cafeteria for a meeting.

Students enjoy an outdoor setting.

How does your garden grow, J. Shupe?

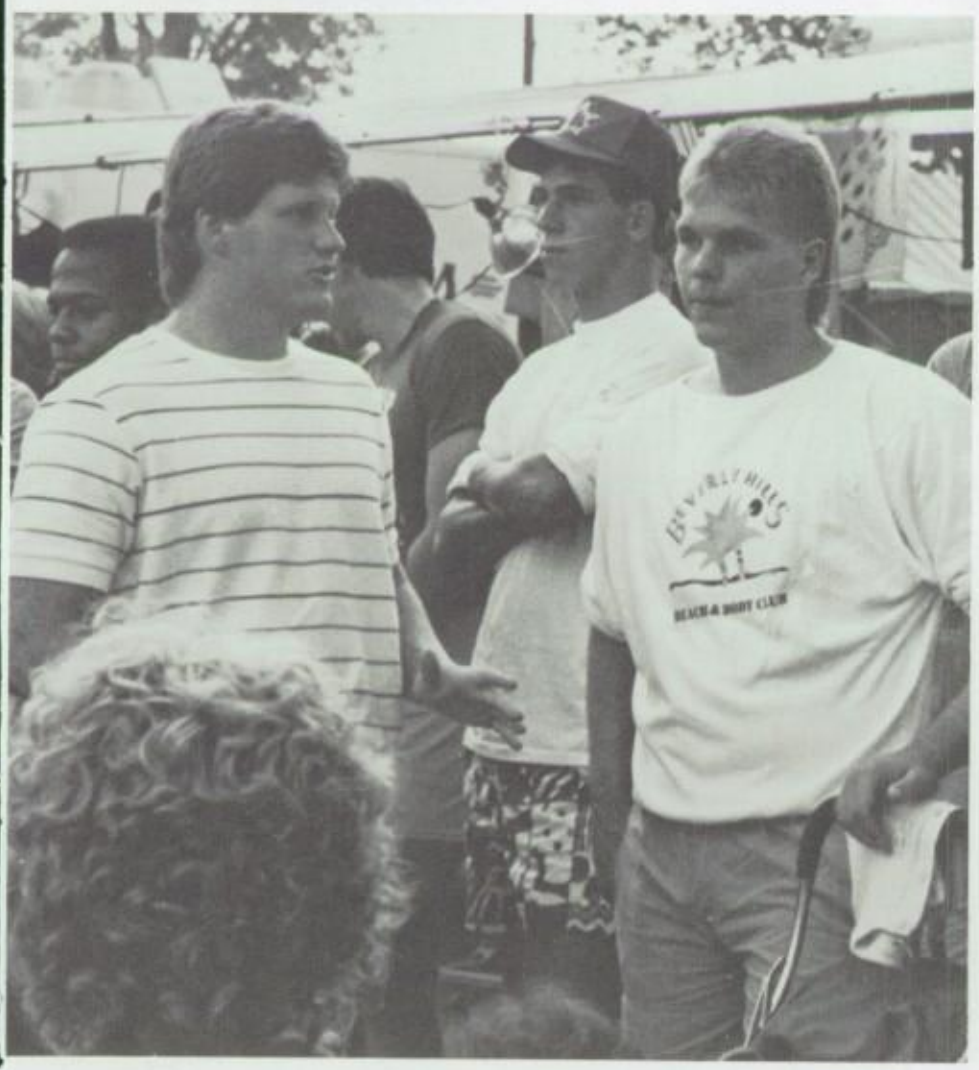
Slaves for a day!

As members of The Contemporaries, several VWHS students perform for an assembly.



No matter what students do, they generate activity. Sometimes these actions reflect the concentration and intensity of their feelings, such as in the classroom. At other times, they reflect the students' sense of humor, which is expressed in wild antics. Fortunately, all students are expressive, as are the scenes they create.

Student Scenes



B. Clay, S. Welker, and T. Treece relax at the fair.

T. Coleman and M. Baucom leisurely stroll the Midway.

The Three Musketeers: R. Haines, C. Growcock, and A. Mechling.

The Family Living class poses after its mock-wedding.

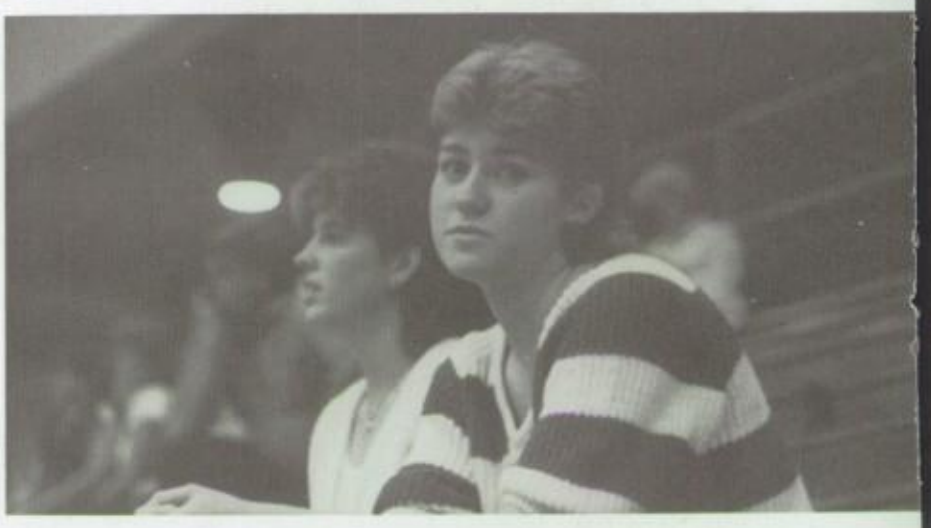
It was the best of times; it was the worst of times. It was the age of wisdom; it was the age of foolishness. For many, school was pure agony as well as pure ecstasy. Although students agonized over homework, tests, and cafeteria food, personal achievements, special events, and loyal friends created more enduring memories. Some days seemed to drag on forever, while others flew by. No matter what students felt about their days at VWHS, they left a little wiser than when they entered.

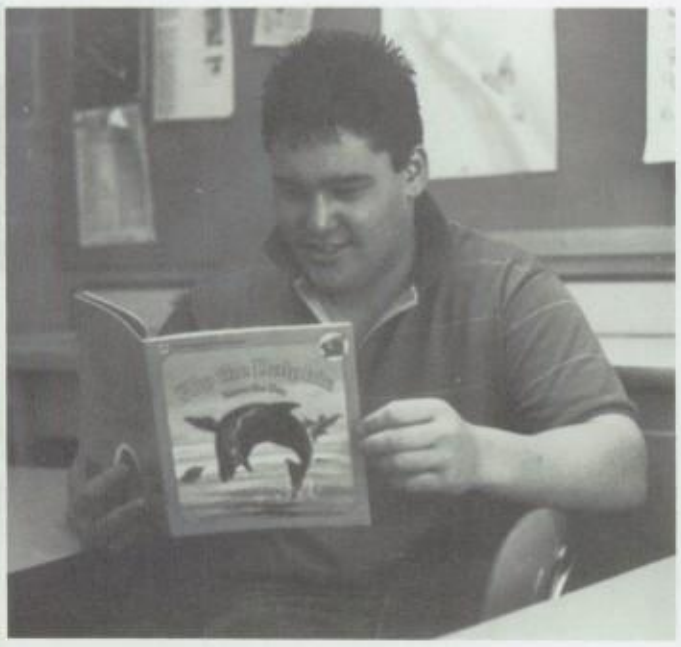
Single living moves into married live.

The Agony And The Ecstasy

K. Dunn and M. Collins practice being angles.

During warm weather, gym class participants head for the football field.





Dewitt flips over dolphins!

The percussion section members take a break.

C. Grimm completes an assignment in the library.

Food, Glorious Food: An Enticement To All Students

Fast food chains provide students a change-of-pace atmosphere at lunch.

For some students, lunchtime offers a time for creativity and self-expression.

Wherever food is served, students congregate, such as the FCA's Fun Night.

In the cafeteria, students gather to talk as much as to eat.

Gourmet Cooking students move out of the kitchen and eat their creations.

Students escape another day of school pizza by dining out for lunch.

Picnics are fun, as Latin Club members discover.

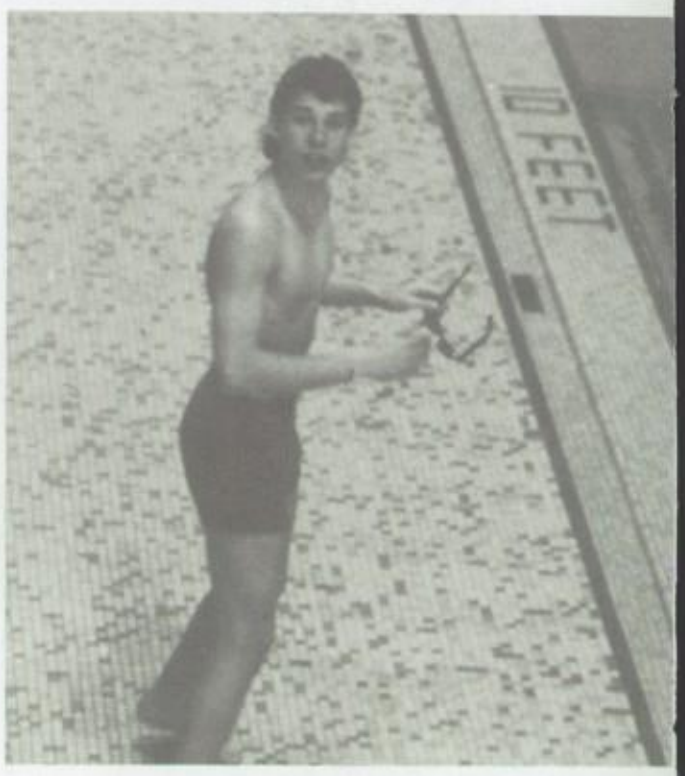
Students on-the-go enjoy snacks.

Lunch at Vantage brings students together in the Commons.

Nothing seemed to attract people like food. When various clubs offered food or hosted pizza parties at noon, a crowd suddenly materialized. In the classroom, wrappers crinkled mysteriously as students surreptitiously slipped candy and gum into their mouths. Lunchtime offered a variety of choices. Some ate in the cafeteria. Others went home or rushed to the local fast food restaurants. Snacks of an infinite variety helped most students survive between meals. Only those on diets had difficulty; for them, food was a horrible temptation.

Students Gain Experience . . . And Money In After-School Jobs

N. Proffitt stacks mugs and dishes at Sharleen's Shoppe.



Watch the water, Harry!

K. DeLong cleans the tables at Orchard Tree.

B. Finger carries out groceries in record time.

To meet the demands of rising costs, more and more students found some source of employment after school. Most of these jobs required long hours, leaving little free time, if any. Whether the students were saving for school expenses, cars, clothes, or whatever, the number of students in the work force increased in 1986. Some students found their various assignments beneficial in preparing them for the future; for others; it was just one more thing that had to be done. No matter what the reason, working after school became a regular part of students' lives.

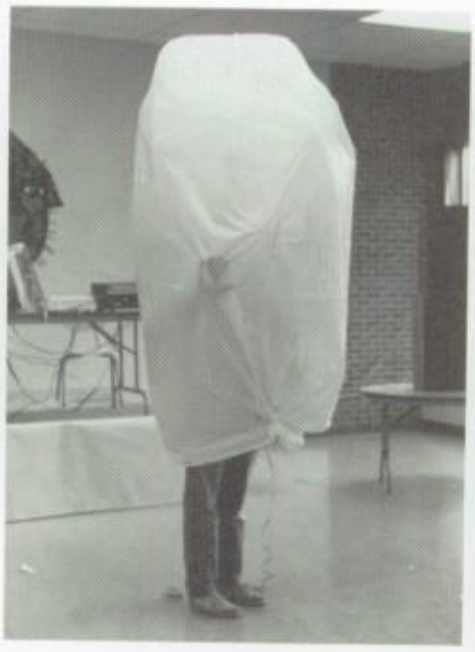
Students rarely had far to look for entertainment. VCR's, stereos, radios, and other equipment occupied most if there was nothing else to do. Because most students liked to socialize with friends, they were usually found in various groupings. School functions, such as dances, sports, and organizations, provided activities for students. The community also sponsored activities in which students participated. VW's County Fair, as always, drew large numbers of young people to the midway. Halloween festivities downtown included parades, games, and races. On weekend nights, especially during the spring, students invariably were found cruising Main Street.

Bed-racing was one of the many events at the Halloween Hullabaloo.

Students Having Fun

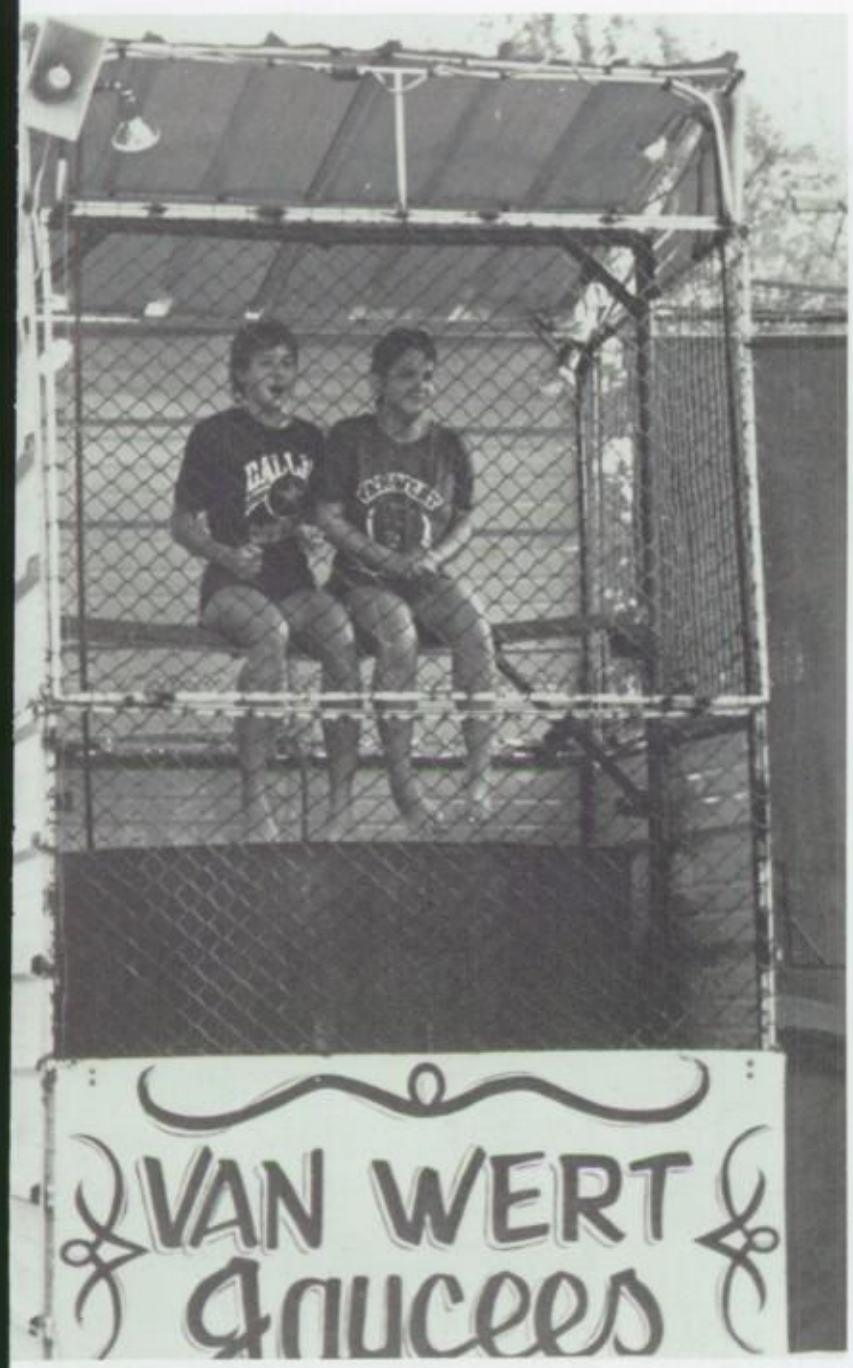
Students get their exercise at Smiley Park.

Band camp capers.



Where is everybody?

T. Uncapher and companions take a stroll at the fairgrounds.



During their trip, juniors explore the French Market.

J. Smith explains her art work during the Senior Art Exhibit.

Students enjoy themselves at one of the many dances at VWHS.

The football team shows its school spirit during the Halloween Parade.

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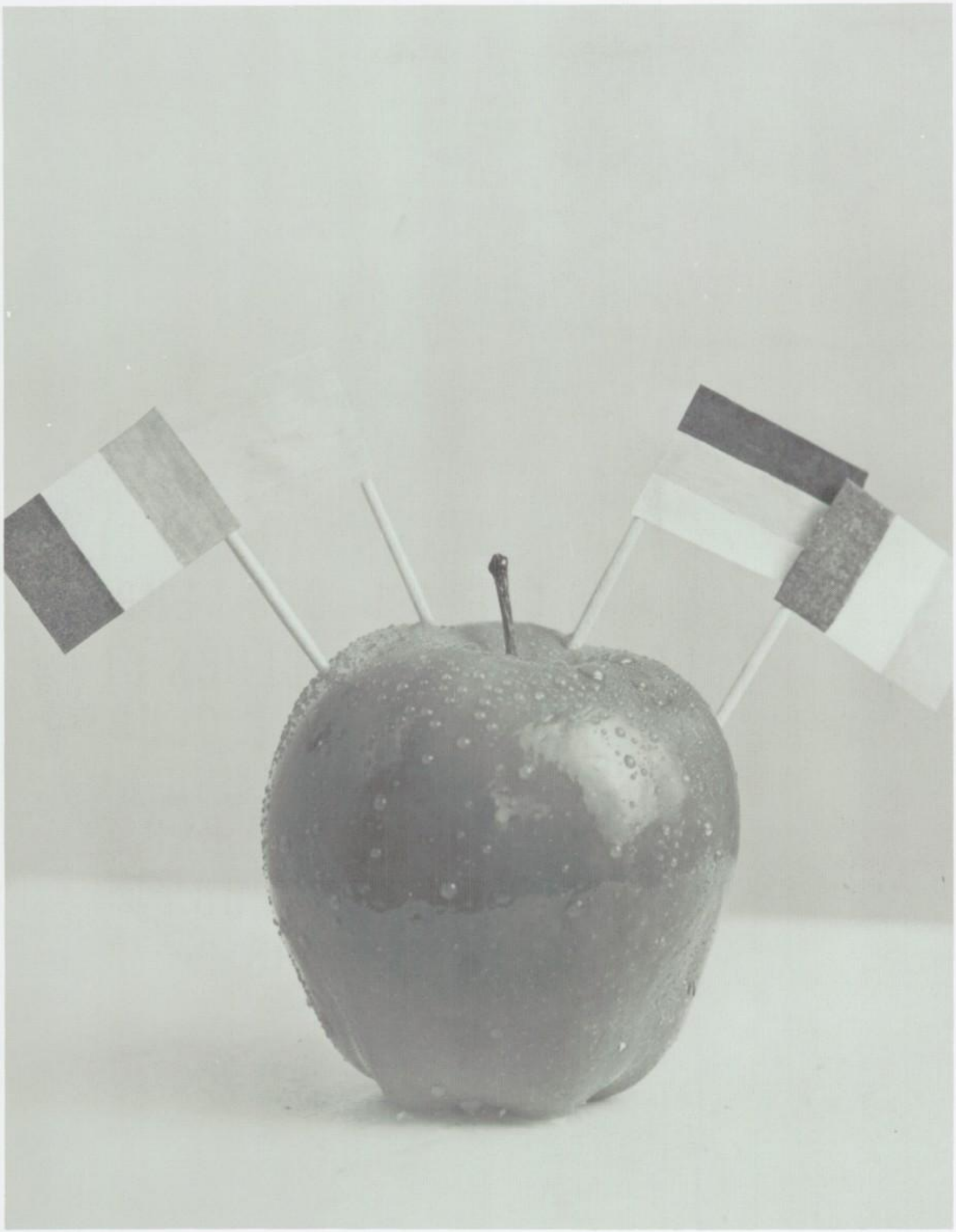


French Club: S'il Vous Plai

The environs of the French Market in Columbus proved to be an exciting attraction for French Club members,. It was there that students sampled the traditional French culture in the various stores and shops. The palate of the students never seemed overly selective, however; shortly after their return from Columbus, the members hosted a pizza party during the lunch period. To attend the Christmas party, members had to bring canned food, which was then donated to the needy. For Student Day, members attempted to sell helium balloons and suckers. In April, the lure of good French cuisine drew students to Cafe Johnell's, where they dined sumptuously on chicken kiev and profiderol. French Club also participated in the citrus sale with other language clubs.

N. Montanero gets into the Christmas party.

Students tour the French Market.

Row 1: D. Schaberg, S. Spridgeon, D. Kline, J. Benschneider, H. Pak, J. Loughrie, J. Crow, E. Ehrsam, K. McGilton, J. Casebere, J. Secaur, L. Cowan. Row 2: C. Loftis, A. Prill, J. Baer, S. Linton, M. Niuman, J. Prichard, T. Johnson, A. Fenton, J. Burnett, N. Miller, A. Wettig, L. Young, L. Tribolet, D. Mefferd, M. Bagley, B. Baer, H. Wettig, S. Smith, J. Tipsord, K. Mengerink, B. Grot. Row 3: M. Ashbaugh, R. Atwood, K. Fox, J. Fox, A. Carlson, Y. Pak, M. Kohart, S. Miller, A. Boley, K. Laukhuf, B. Sullivan, M. Fields, C. Dunlap, N. Raver, D. Harvey, J. Geesey, E. Eikenbary, M. Baker, C. Barnes, H. Taylor, Mrs. Reitzel, E. Johns, A. Frantz. Row 4: C. Rhoades, T. Uncapher, A. Raviptti, V. Sterrett, J. Detwiler, C. Grimm, T. Sunderland, K. Langdon, A. Agler, S. Putman, S. Stevens, J. Cramer, W. Dunlap, L. Layton, L. Johnson, R. Kiracofe, L. Kiracofe, T. Smith, J. Worthington, R. Fodrie, D. Miller, N. Cyr, M. Foy, M. Myers, A. Agler, C. Gemmer, A. Bebout.

Up, up, and away!

Latin Club: Carpe Diem

Members pose before the Junior Classical League Convention.

An active slate of events kept members of Latin Club busy throughout the year. As the year began, Latin Club met at Smiley Park for the annual Mini Olympics, followed by a picnic. In November, the members assembled at Noble Roman's for a pizza party. Christmas brought further celebration. The annual caroling party was held at the home of S. Purmort. Just before the Christmas break, members met during the lunch hour for the traditional Saturnalia festival. In March, members traveled to Columbus for the JCL Convention. Although the hotel's accommodations were less than desirable, the members still had a good time. Capping off the year was the club's trip to Casa d'Angelos in Ft. Wayne, where they dined on exotic Italian foods.

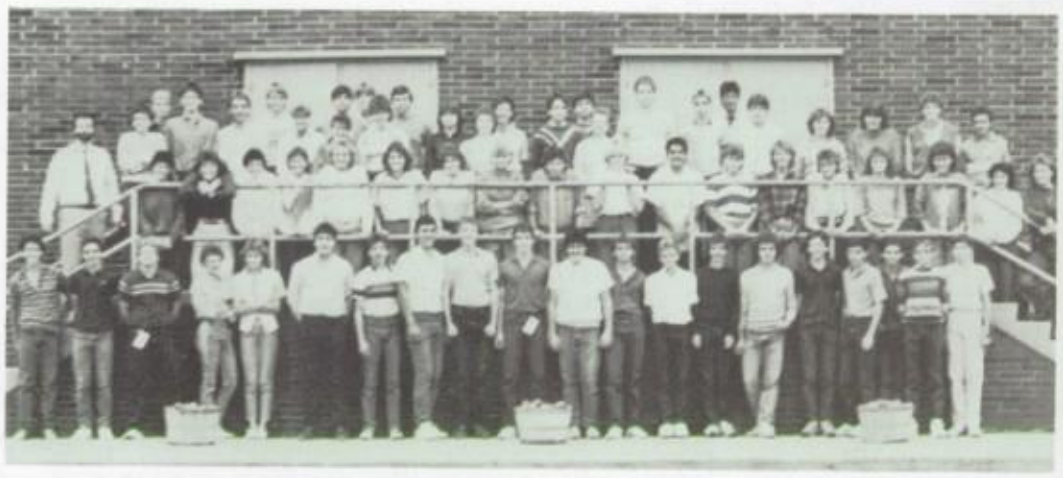
S. Upton performs at Christmas.

Left to right: L. Crow, B. Blank, R. Busch, S. Upton, J. Jamieson, S. Purmort, R. Grossheim, B. Finger, B. Barton, J. Thompson, S. Stevens, J. Bailey, C. Boling, E. Pemberton, K. Brant, J. Bigler, G. Cherukuri, Mrs. Sipe.

The Christmas party, held at S. Purmort's, encouraged many tall tales.

German Club: Wir Bringen Es Lebendes

Members tour German Village in Columbus.



Row 1: G. Palombi, R. Kovar, J. Burkheimer, J. Stevens, C. Bakle, S. Montanaro, D. Gehres, B. Spray, M. Wollet, C. Thomasson, T. Clouse, M. Potter, M. Cox, M. Wise, K. Seplak, S. Early, S. Springer, R. Frederick, J. Holersten. Row 2: J. Witten, C. Temple, B. Hayes, K. Arn, A. Foy, P. Lowe, S. Collins, A. McCracken, K. Gardner, C. Dineen, S. Ramos, C. Grant, N. Williman, K. Zedaker, S. Blair, J. Mowry, K. Wagonrod, L. Waters. Row 3: Mr Kalkreuth, S. Zabicki, H. Monnig, T. Eikenbary, M. Schaufelberger, T. Riggenbach, A. Bowersock, J. Linser, K. Herminghuysen, M. Klewer, C. Shields, W. Dohmen, J. Mohr, M. Purmort, M. Whetstone, B. Blank, C. Herminhuysen, S. Stevens, B. Dunham, E. Reitzel, C. Magdich, B. Clay, T. Wolford, M. Vetter, C. Zedaker, T. Coleman

A pyramid, German style.

Students eager to understand the language and culture of Germany joined German Club. To experience local customs, members traveled to Columbus and toured German Village, where they sampled the various foods and confections of the culture. Christmas, always a festive occasion, was celebrated in style. Members congregated at Herr Kalkreuth's home for caroling, Christmas desserts, and fun. The annual citrus sale brought in the necessary revenue for the club's activities. During Student Day, German Club sponsored its second Root Beer Fest and sold brautwurst sandwiches. As a final activity, the smorgasbord banquet at the Back Forty attracted members. This year, members who participated in the citrus sale were honored at the banquet.

German students relax while touring.

T. Butler and J. Scheidt display their oranges.

Row 1: T. Butler, K. Waldron, B. Thatcher, A. Adams, T. Wolford, S. Giessler, K. Arn, B. Gribler, J. Tangeman. Row 2: M. Casarez, M. Landis, E. Eikenbary, J. Habbeger, T. Goudy, C. Saam, C. Conrad, G. Emrick, D. Coleman, M. Klosterman, T. Werth, K. McEntire, J. Thompson, R. Wilson, S. Heffner, T.J. Grimm, R. Heffner, T. Stutz, J. Grossheim. Row 3: R. Atwood, K. Webster, R. Myers, B. Greve, D. Miller, C. Butler, C. Aguirrie, M. Minnig, G. Sully, R. Davis, S. Prill, M. Collins, M. Evans, H. Waldron, S. Foster, J. Tomlinson, J. Scheidt, T. Turnwald, A. Webster, S. Stevens. Row 4: J. Moraw, T. Treece, B. Priest, M. Moraw, M. Hetrick, A. Kinkle, K. Carter, M. Cox, D. Muktarian, T. Stemen, B. Fawcett, B. Wise, C. Tuckerman, B. Beck, R. McGough, P. Foreman, E. See, S. Waldron, H. Williman, A. Jeimson, T. Trisel, A. Miller, S. Ruttan. Row 5: M. Riegel, C. Harter, B. Benschneider, D. Core, J. Saam.

For Student Day, students set up for nachitos.

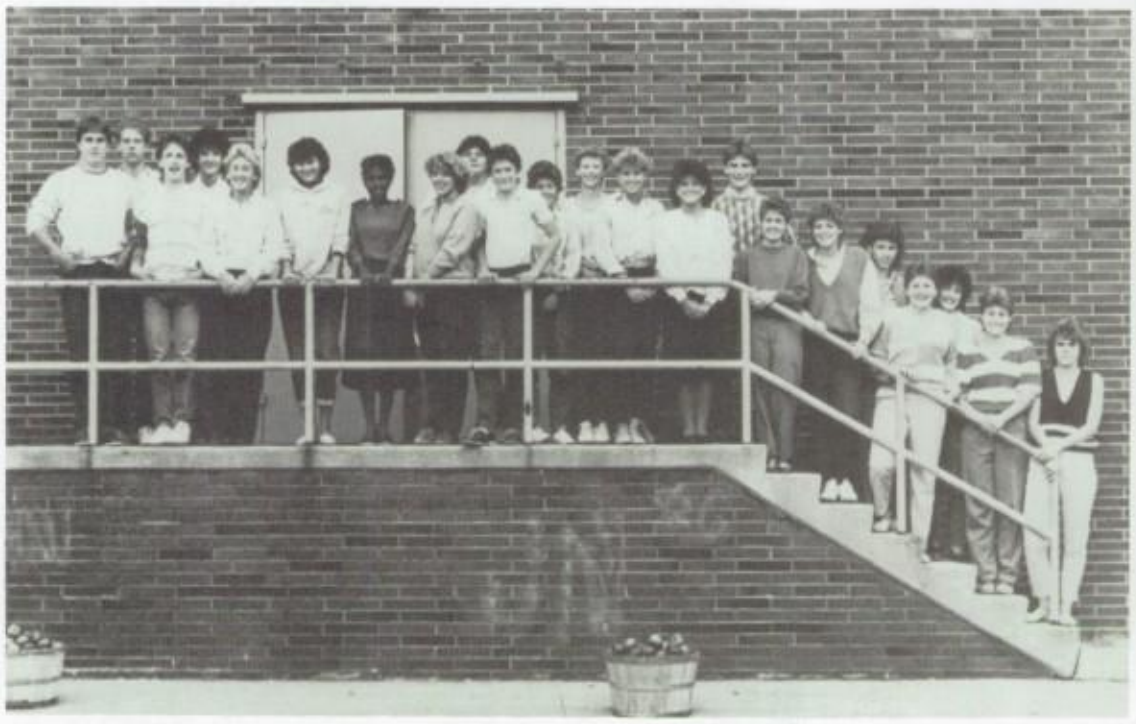
T. Goudy and B. Gribler prepare to leave for a spicey dinner at Chi Chi's.

Spanish Club
Hasta Manana

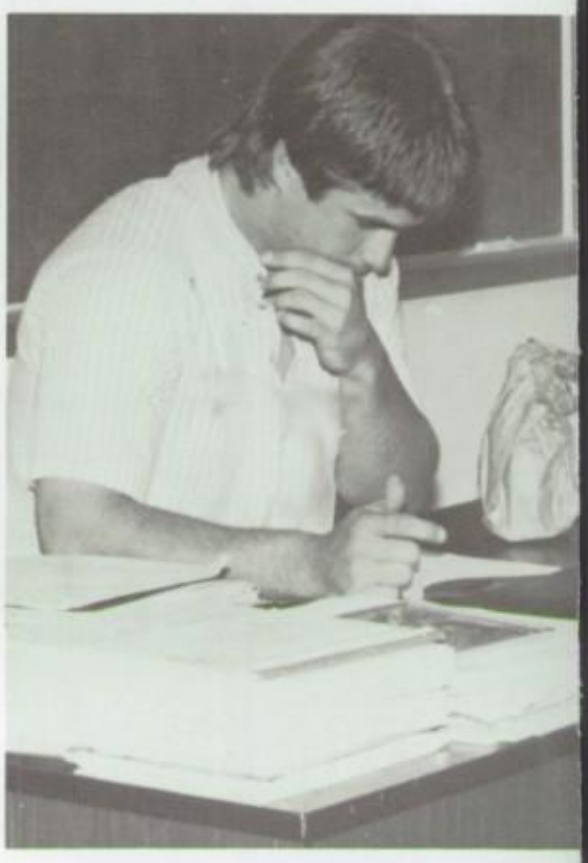
A banquet in the cafeteria brought the members of Spanish Club together at the beginning of the year. During this meeting, students dined on Mexican food while watching slides of Mexico and other Spanish-speaking countries; the election of officers was also held at this time. For Halloween, Spanish Club met for a hayride and then made their way through the Haunted Forest. Food played an important aspect in the lives of Spanish Club members. Members dined on Mexican fare at Banditos in Lima and Chi Chi's in Fort Wayne. For a local party, they met at Pizza Hut one night after school. During Student Day, members served nachitos to the populace of VWHS. To fund these various activities, Spanish Club participated in the citrus sale with the other language clubs.

Student Council Supports School Activities

Student Council members discuss activities.



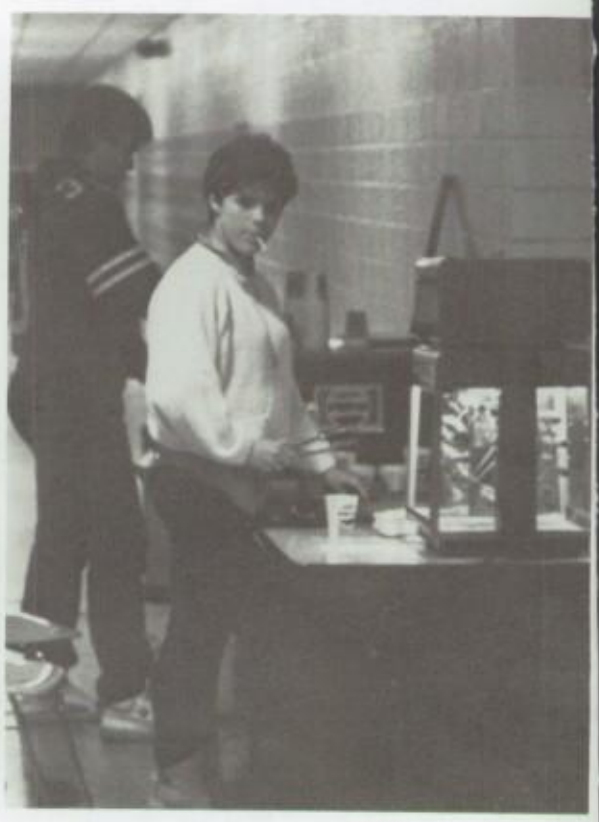
T. Fiegel, B. Dunham, S. Heffner, B. Debbe, N. Proffitt, K. Langdon, A. Jemison, D. Miller, A. Agler, C. Drake, V. Sterrett, K. Schaddt, A. Bowersock, K. Waldron, J. Mengerink, J. Linser, C. Zedaker, J. Mowry, C. Dunlap, K. Laukhuf, C. Grant, K. McClure.



President T. Fiegel counts ballots.

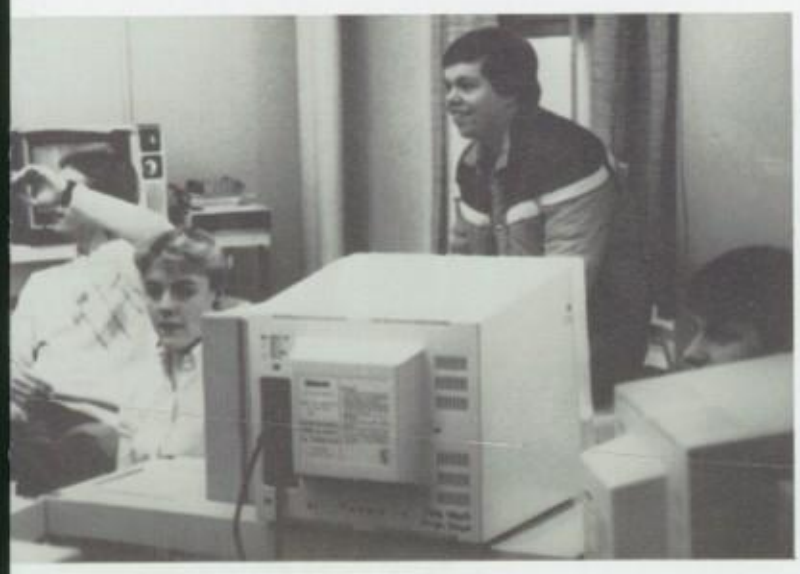
Members elected to Student Council met with Mr. Dibert during the 8th period. Presiding over the Council was senior T. Fiegel. Throughout the year, Student Council sponsored several assemblies for the student body, including Voices and the wilderness slide show featuring grizzly bears; they also funded the Cougar's Roar slide show at the end of the year. Parent's Night for basketball and football fell under the auspices of Student Council. At the end of the year, elections for the forthcoming year were held.

T. Fowler serves ice cream during Student Day.



J. Steele works at the concession stand.

Computer Club Goes On Line At V.W.H.S.



Members listen to new ideas presented during a meeting held at lunch.

J. Detwiler practices on the keyboard.

Front: D. Johnson, M. Cook, C. Mosier. Back: E. Johns, Mr. Butler, V. Niuman, W. Bolton, J. Fox, R. Myers, H. Taylor, M. High, P. Lowe, G. Carter, L. Crow, W. Dohmen, J. Dohmen, M. Riegel, J. Gerold.

President K. Herminhuysen confers with Mr. Butler.

1986 saw the debut of Computer Club. The new organization's main goals were to allow students the use of computers in a relaxed setting and to develop student performance and competence outside the classroom. Meetings were held during the lunch-hour, during which time members discussed electronics, basic computer skills, and games. To raise money, the club sponsored a dance; the money raised was used to purchase computer software for the school's computer program. At the conclusion of the year, members gathered at the home of Mr. Butler for pizza and fun.

K. Wagonrod aids M. Eikenbary.

Row 1: C. Mosier, B. Sullivan, J. Jamieson, C. Parkanzky, J. Detwiler, K. Wagonrod, R. Meyers, L. Kiracofe. Row 2: T. Brown, L. Sidle, J. Closson, M. Brehm, J. Knittle, D. Weigle, T. Kreischer, M. Boaz, L. Crow, B. Fawcett, A. Webster, G. Sullivan, K. Silance, T. Putman, D. Pruden.

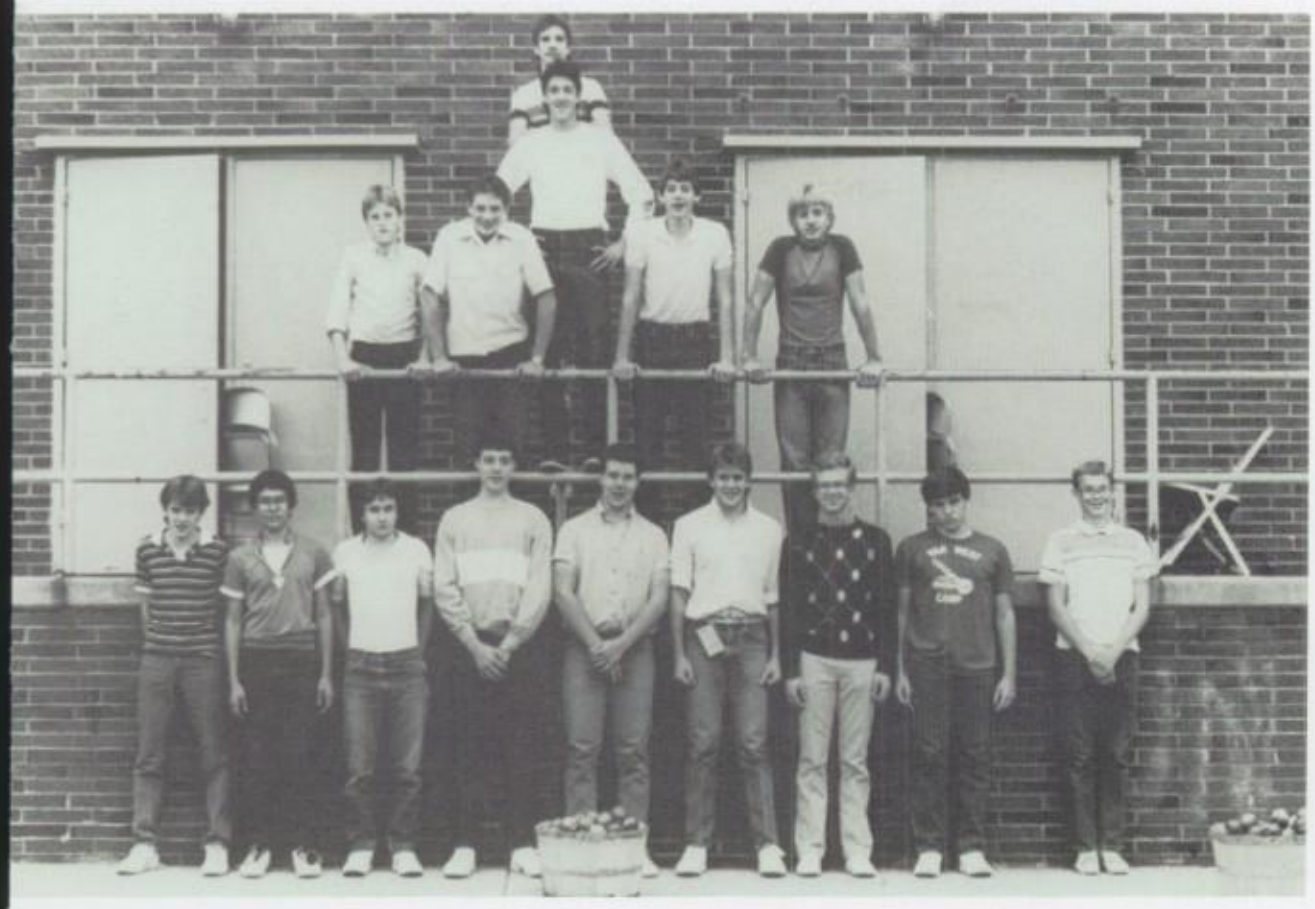
Students Assist In The Library

Members of Library Club spent a productive year in the library. These students were expected to work at least one period a day. During that time, they worked at the desk, checked books in and out, helped others locate sources and magazines, collected overdues, and were responsible for a shelf. Those participating gained extensive knowledge about the library and its services. A sense of camaraderie between students also made the year an enjoyable one for the student librarians.

R. Waltmire and K. Hardmon revise a bulletin board.

As part of his duties, R. Myers returns books to a shelf.

M. Brehm helps R. Jeknavarian locate books for an assignment.



Row I: T. Brown, S. Burk, E. Linser, L. Crow, J. Knittle, B. Fawcett, S. Upton, K. Herminghuysen, D. Lewis. Row 2: G. Sullivan, S. Schrader, M. Brehm, L. Sidle. Top: J. Closson, S. Montanaro.

Members of the Audio-Visual Crew were responsible for the deployment of all electronic equipment throughout the school. Under strict supervision, those involved spent most of the year in the library. After raising money for alterations, members aided in the remodeling and painting of the A-V room. By the end of the year, the AV Crew was busily taking inventory of everything in their electronic empire.

Audio-Visual Staff Supervises Electronic Equipment For School

S. Schrader and R. Wilson program a tv for use.

An accurate schedule helps the crew keep track of equipment.

The 86 Excalibur Staff began early in the summer as Editors-in Chief K. Mengerink and E. Johns met to organize the book and schedule the events. Staff members then met briefly before they scoured the town for advertising. After a successful campaign, the staff was ready to tackle the book itself.

86 was a busy year. Staff members first undertook the Homecoming festivities, which took several weeks to plan and organize. In December, some of the members celebrated the holidays at a festive dinner at Chi Chi's, complete with presents and cards. With the coming of January, serious work on the deadlines began. As the year progressed, the lights of room 509 burned far into the night. In May, the Midnight Six celebrated their successful year at Cheddars. Despite occasional problems, when the proofs returned in the spring, most members realized their hectic efforts had been rewarded.

Excalibur Staff Pares Deadlines To The Core

D. Shell makes a final adjustment before taking a picture.

Front: E. Johns, K. Mengerink. Standing: C. Zedaker, T. Butler, S. Collins, M. Collins, T. Uncapher, M. Purmort, S. Whitcraft, T. Johnson, K. Dunn, B. Gribler, B. Sullivan, P. Lowe, J. Mohr, N. Porffitt, D. Hofmann, D. Branch, J. Shupe, C. Thomasson.

B. Sullivan enjoys the satisfaction of completing another layout.

Editors-in-Chief K. Mengerink and E. Johns go over the proofs.

Row I: M. Wise, V. Barnhart, T. Fiegel, R. Mengerink, J. Loughrie, J. Gemmer, A. Boley, M. Woodruff, G. Sully, V. Sterrett, J. Mengerink, A. Wise, C. Hoverman, J. Prichard Row 2: J. Gerold, J. Steele, T. Stemen, T. Turner, C. Henkaline, L. Bonifas, B. Gribler, S. Mengerink, Mr. McGonnell, K. McGilton, A. McCracken, C. Grant, T. Butler, E. Linser, E. Moffitt, J. Linser, P. Foreman.

J. Mengerink, editor, readies another column.

As one of her tasks, R. Morton types her article.

J. Prichard and C. Grant use their creativity on layouts.

E. Moffitt focuses for a precision shot.

Issues of the Cougar's Roar continued to roll off the presses in 86. Two changes appeared in the paper's format. Color was added to the name plate, which enhanced the front page. A centerfold updated the sports section by providing more depth and versatility.

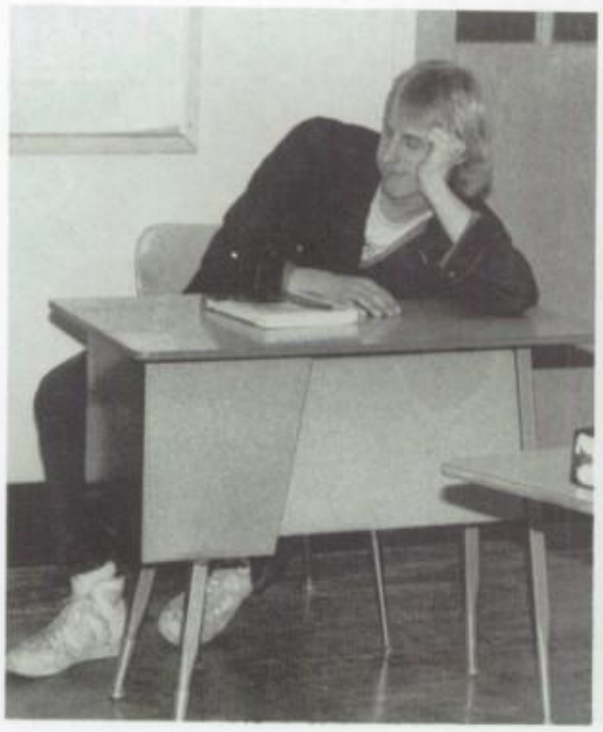
Always dedicated to school spirit, the staff maintained a hectic schedule. To honor all participants in fall sports, the Roar staged a city-wide pep assembly. As annual features, members once again sold calendars, sponsored the Monopoly Game, as well as several dances. The second annual slide show featuring pictures of student life was presented in May. In conjunction with this, they sold a video form to students. Participation in the national Hands Across America brought a satisfactory finale to the year.

To maintain a status of excellence, members attended workshops and conventions. During the summer, they traveled to Ball State for seminars. Trips to Cleveland, Toledo, and New York also stimulated new ideas for staff members. Because of their continued efforts, the paper received many awards. These included 1st place SPA from Columbia University; The Gallop Award for Quill and Scroll; 1st place — best newspaper from Kent State; and the Buckeye Award from the Great Lakes Interscholastic Press Association.

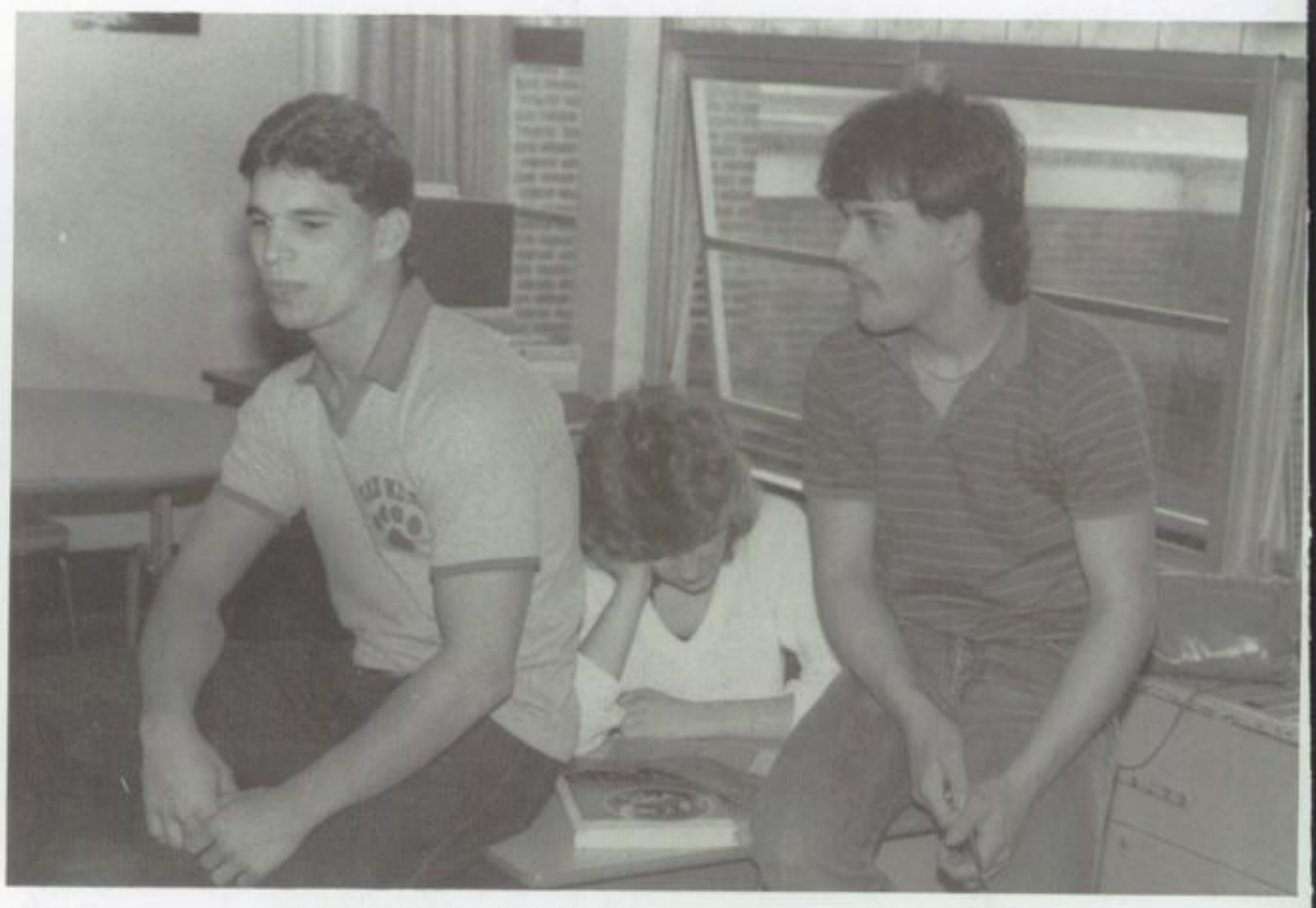
Newspaper Staff Roars Into Action

Serving as bankers, T. Steman and J. Linser work during the Monopoly Game.

Home Ec. Job Training Readies Students



After a difficult day, L. Fielder takes a break.



M. Waldron and J. Giessler discuss their job experiences.

Officers: C. Goodwin, Secretary-Treasurer; Pruden, President.

L. Wood concentrates on her studies.

Home Ec. Job Training provided on-the-job training with coordinated classroom experiences to further home economics career goals. Seniors enrolled in this program, affiliated with Vantage, spent part of their school day working, at least fifteen hours per week. Career opportunities included food services and child care fields. Classroom activities were divided into two areas. The first part dealt with classroom skills, job acquisition, banking, checking, legal responsibilities, and advertising. Job applications and resumes were reviewed. The second part of the course was job specific. This included a training program to reinforce on-the-job assignments.

Two year members: Row 1: V. Niuman, M. Whetstone, K. Laukhuf, K. Mengerink, B. Hayes, R. Atwood, H. Taylor, J. Allen. Row 2: E. Johns, J. Fox, W. Bolton, B. Sullivan, W. Dohmen, S. Purmort, E. Moffitt, K. McGilton, J. Mohr, P. Lowe, J. Mengerink, E. Linser.

First year inductees: Row 1: S. Collins, C. Hoverman, L. Keirns, J. Witten, J. Tipsord, S. Stevens. Row 2: A. Mechling, P. Jackson, T. Eikenbary, D. Scheidt, R. Sink, T. Stemen, T. Turner, E. Pemberton.

New member S. Collins prepares for recognition.

National Honor Society Induction Ceremony

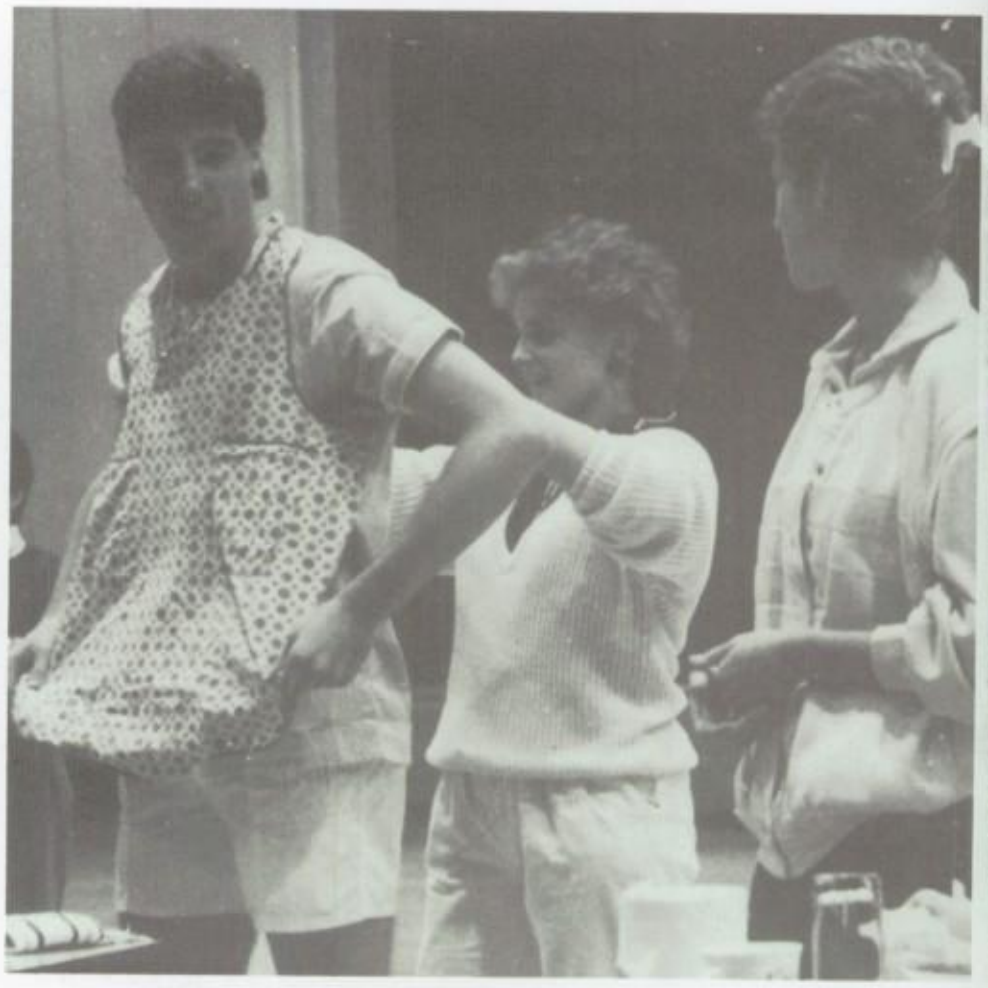
National Honor Society enjoyed a more active year in 1986. Throughout the year, the senior members met several times to organize events for the year. Society members participated in a service project, a scavenger hunt to collect food for the Community Food Pantry. The members were also responsible for ordering the special tassels to be worn by students in the graduating class with a 3.0 or above average.

April 21 featured the NHS Banquet, held in the cafeteria. Mrs. D. Simkins, the featured speaker, referred to the differences between the American and English school systems. The Induction Ceremony followed, during which all new members bearing candles were recognized and honored.

As the new members approach, they are welcomed by 2nd year members B. Sullivan and K. Laukhuf.

The County Fair generated activities for members of FHA. Those involved participated in Tot City, built a float for the parade, and sponsored an informative booth. As school progressed, the activities increased. FHA ran several concessions during football games. For Homecoming another float was constructed for the Thursday night pep rally. A hayride provided excitement at Halloween. At Christmas, members held a party for the teachers' children. FHA sponsored the Sweetheart Dance on February 1; for Valentine's Day, the club sold carnations. Rallies at the county and regional levels kept members busy, as did the State convention in April. The Real Man Contest during Student Day was sponsored by FHA. Culminating the year was the installation ceremony following the election of new officers.

FHA Provides Tools For Living

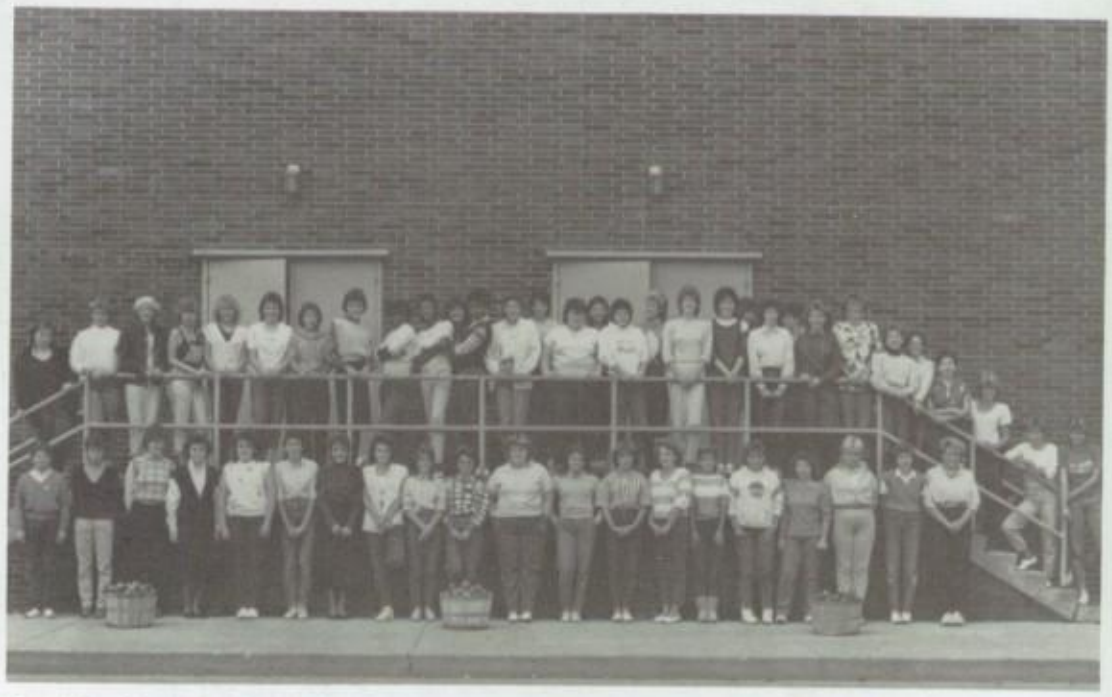


FHA members prepare M. Lupton for the Real Man Contest.

At Christmas, members entertain teachers' children.

The FHA float reflects the talents of its members.

State Convention Attendees: C. Shields, L. Waters, L. Ryan, M. Vetter, L. Williamson, C. Loftus, K. Christlieb, D. Hamilton.



Row 1: L. Ryan, L. Cryer, C. Shields, C. Loftus, A. Parsons, T. Stutz, K. Kock, E. Ersham, J. Layton, K. Jeknovarian, M. McCoy, A. Hayes, J. Sink, D. Rucklus, A. Robbins, L. Fisher, K. Sargent, D. Finger, A. Osborn, C. Barker. Row 2: C. Boling, K. Webster, M. Klosterman, K. Delong, D. Lane, D. Pruden, V. Agler, J. Moraw, T. Smith, P. Nash, C. Jewell, D. Washington, C. Conrad, M. Ashbaugh, An. Foreman, V. Pruden, B. Hayes, D. Farmer, S. Purmort, R. Atwood, Mrs. Brown, L. Williamson, Mrs. Hurless, L. Waters, B. Barton, S. Achaberb, W. Dunlap, D. Hamilton, A. Miller, D. Terhark.

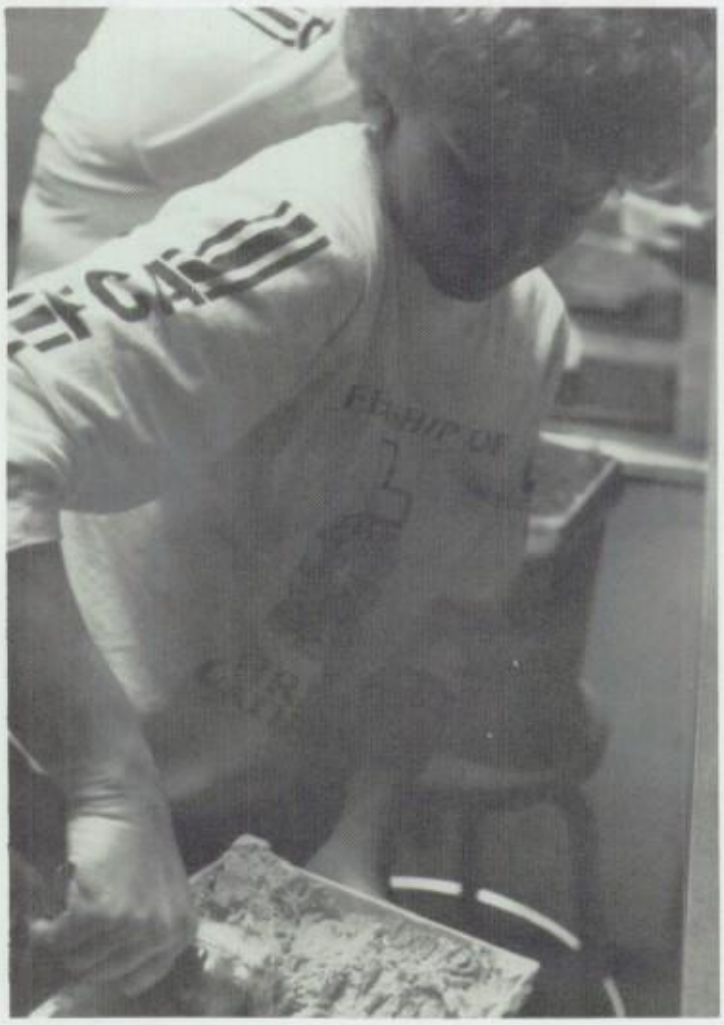
F.C.A. Holds Bag And Bible Meetings

Sitting: K. Ford, B. Debbe, S. Stricker, C. Dunlap. Standing: J. Kleman, T. Pohlman, S. Linton, C. Baxter, J. Dunlap, Miss Hurless.

Kneeling: M. Potter, M. Cox, D. Upton. Standing: E. See, B. Fawcett, V. Barnhart, S. Upton, Mr. Hittle.

For the Christmas assembly, FCA members present a skit.

Members of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes met regularly for Bag and Bible sessions, weekly devotional services. Several evening meetings for planning were also held. As a result of this planning, FCA sponsored many activities. Fun Nights, featuring movies, games, and ice cream, brought many people together. For the Christmas assembly, the club presented a new cast of the first Christmas, complete with video remotes. Later in the year, they sponsored a short assembly and evening concert, featuring Omega Sunrise. Because of this group's appeal, members traveled to Bluffton for another concert. To celebrate Easter, FCA'ers met for an early breakfast and prayer meeting. As a final activity, members attended the Sandi Patti Concert in Ft. Wayne. Several fund raisers helped finance these activities, including the stadium clean-up, cake raffles, concession stand during track season, and sponsoring the Omega Sunrise Concert.



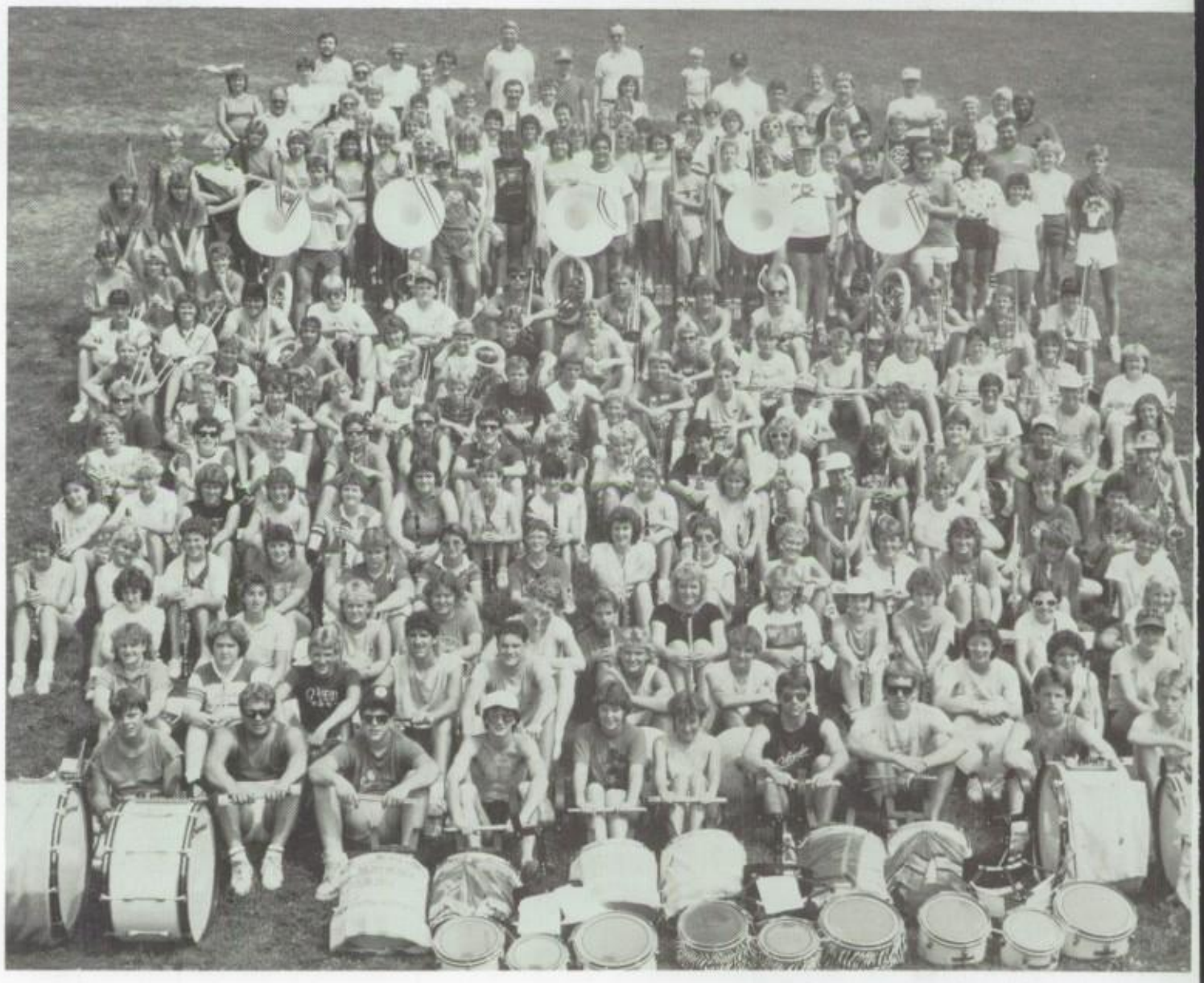
S. Stricker serves ice cream following the FCA Fun Night.

V.W. Cougar Pride Marching Band

The Van Wert Cougar Pride Marching Band, under the guidance of Mr. T. Alessendrini, strove for perfection in 1985. Beginning the year was the annual week spent in Wheeling, West Virginia. Strenuous rehearsals filled the long hours of daylight on the marching field, while skits and pranks filled the hours of the evenings. After returning to Van Wert, the Band continued to meet at Washington School for intense practices, which prepared the Band for its numerous performances throughout the season. Members traveled to Convoy, the County Fair, and Bellefountaine to perform the dazzling New York show.

The V.W.H.S. Band performs during the fair.

Band camp antics provide hilarious memories.



The line from the "New York Show"

The Halloween Parade features the Band.

C. Thomasson and friends exchange stories during a break.

During the "Spanish Show", W. Bolton performs a stirring solo.

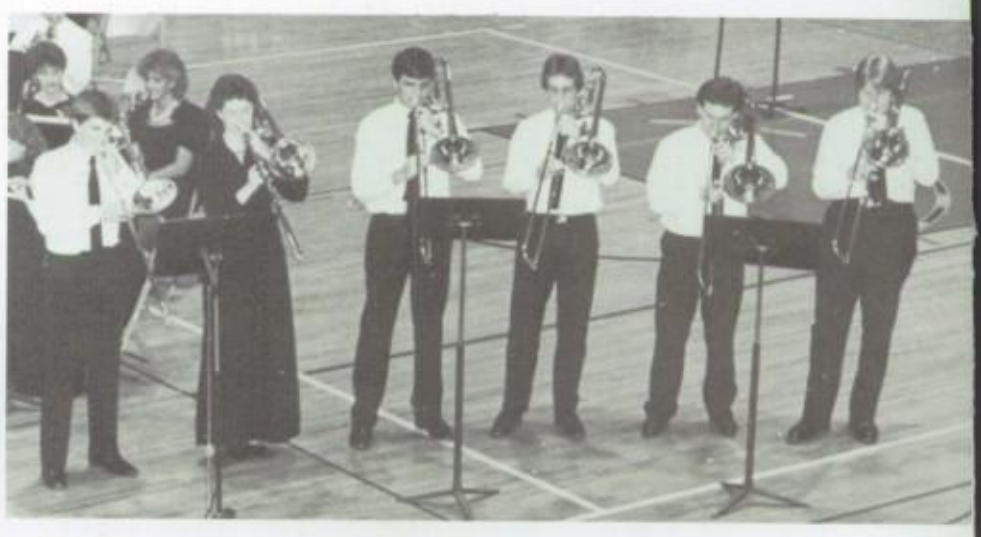
Because of the heat during the first part of the season, band members performed pre-game coatless.

Mr. "A", the Big Ragu.

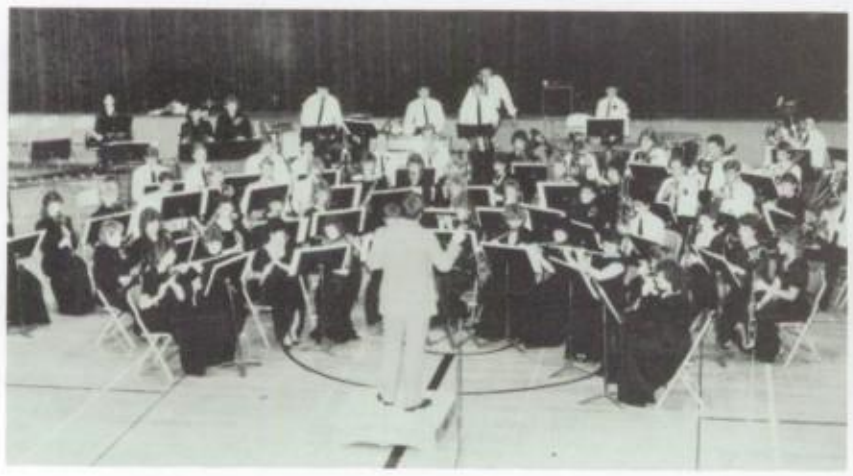
Percussionists demonstrate their skills.

S. Upton receives the John Phillips Sousa Award.

Concert band members practiced long and hard throughout the winter in preparation for the forthcoming competitions. The 4th period seemed tedious as members played the songs over and over. After attaining a "I" rating at District, more rehearsals were required. Early morning sectionals and intense personal practice sessions became normal routines for band members. At State, the band earned a "II" rating, much to the disappointment of the participants. However, they redeemed themselves during the Spring Concert, during which they offered a performance of perfection.



The trombones take center stage at Spring Concert.



Scholastic Bowl performs for the student body during an assembly.

K. McGilton works to solve a computation problem.

Several members compare answers.

During the second season, the Scholastic Bowl Team faced a heavy schedule. Weekly practices with teachers helped prepare the members. The first competition was at Wayne Trace. It was there that the team upset the fierce Wayne Trace team and captured the runner-up title. Kenton's bowl was next, during which VW again placed second. Competition at Hicksville and Fairview during the winter served as warm-ups for The WOBC competition in Celina. Despite an impressive performance, the team bowed out early. Two AUK-AUK computer bowl contests presented additional challenges during the year. To conclude the activities for the 86 school year, members met informally for idle talk and pizza.

Scholastic Bowl Team Takes 2nd Place In Wayne Trace Bowl

K. Herminghuysen and H. Taylor deliberate.

At the end of the year, members relax over pizza.

With the hope of going to State Contest, the choir performs.

Concert Choir joins in song during Commencement.

Yoshiki performs on the keyboard.

Concert Choir Harmonizes

"Schauf" directs Concert Choir.

Members of Concert Choir lifted their voices in song during 86. Early in the year, the members performed the national anthem during a football game. Christmas programs were many, including a trip to Ft. Wayne's WKJG for a televized program. Despite achieving a "II" rating at District, the Choir went on to perform flawlessly during the Spring Concert. As a final performance, members of the choir, including robed seniors, sang during graduation.

S. Upton accompanies the choir.

A. Adams and W. Bolton sing a duet.

Lierderkranz sings for the final time at the Spring Concert.

For the first time, Women's Chorus was asked to participate in the Festival of Women's Chorus of Singing at Notre Dame. Therefore, members performed at St. Mary's College in November. During the year, the chorus also performed in the Winter and Spring Concerts and at the Women's Club Musicale held at the Marsh Foundation. In contest, Women's Chorus earned a "II" rating.

Women's Chorus Travels To Notre Dame

Marsh Foundation plays host to Women's Chorus.

Women's Club members perform with others from the county schools.

At Spring Concert, members display their talents.

During class, members pay heed to the Choir Master.

The Sophomore Choir met regularly during the year for practice. Their performances included both the Winter and Spring Concerts. In May, members of the choir toured the elementary schools, where they performed for the students. To end the year, Sophomore Choir staged a special performance for the students of Thomas Edison.

Sophomore Choir

The choir performs during the Christmas Concert.

T. Johnson and J. Prichard accompany the choir.

Smile!

SPORTS SPORTS SPORTS
SPORTS SPORTS SPORTS
SPORTS SPORTS SPORTS
SPORTS SPORTS SPORTS
SPORTS SPORTS SPORTS
SPORTS SPORTS SPORTS
SPORTS SPORTS SPORTS
SPORTS SPORTS SPORTS
SPORTS SPORTS SPORTS
SPORTS SPORTS SPORTS

V.W. Football Team Ends Season

T. Cloud runs against Wapak.

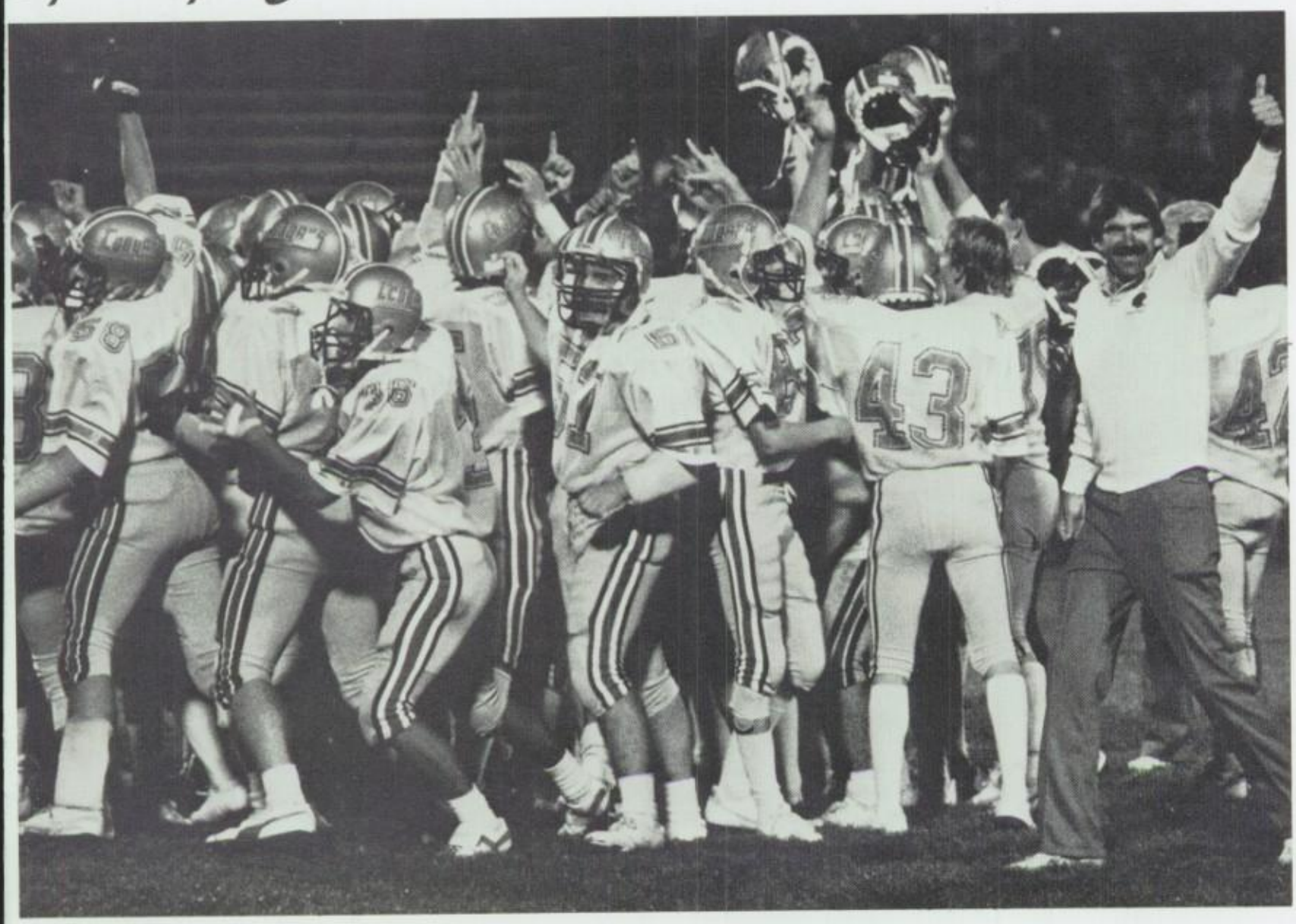
Even on the sidelines, S. Welker intensely follows the action

"To Be the Best; What Else Is There?", the motto of the Varsity Cougar Football Team, provided the motivation for both coaches and team members in 1985. As a result, the team established the second best record for VW football in 25 years. 85 was a season of impressive statistics, beginning with an 8-2 overall record. The team scored the most wins since 1969 and posted the first winning season since 1976. In league action, VW's offensive team placed second, while the defensive team placed third.

85 was an exciting season. The first half of the season was dominated primarily by one win after another. Only the early loss to St. Mary's marred their perfect record. After an exciting win over Celina, the team headed for a show-down with Bath. In the final regular season game, in front of 5500 fans, the Cougars faced the league champion contenders from Bath. Although VW led throughout most of the first half, they eventually lost the game. However, the season was not over. Team and fans traveled to Orrville to participate in the state playoffs for the first time in the school's history. Once again, VW, started strong, but they failed to maintain the lead. VW's loss, however, came at the hands of the eventual state runner-up team.

Junior M. Moraw sweeps around the left end, looking for an opening.

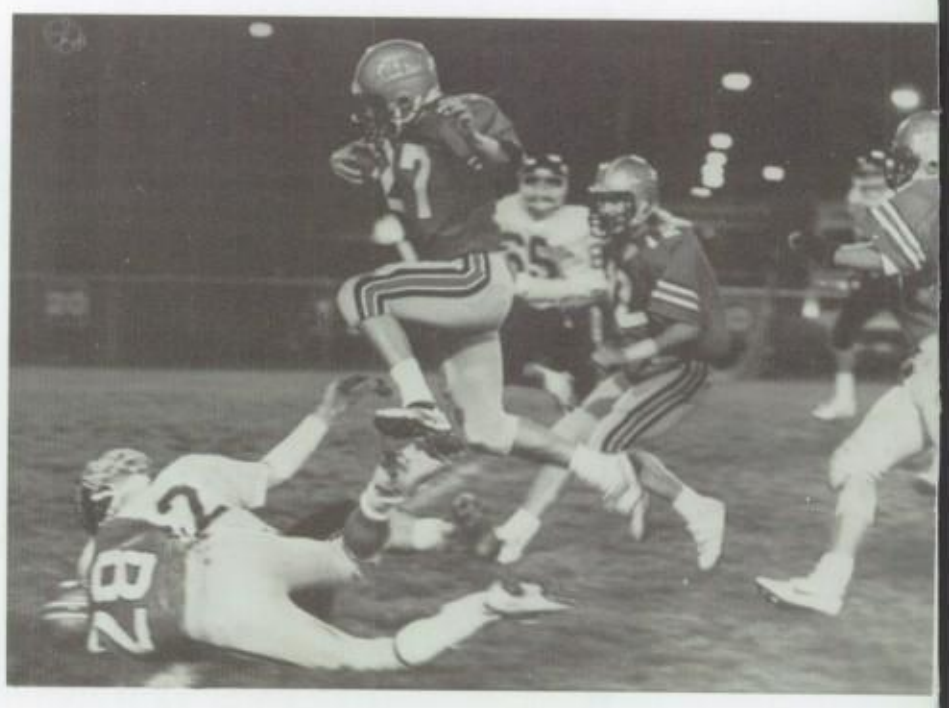
By Playing In Post-Season State Playoffs



Following one of the many victories, team members reveal their exuberance.

After a quick pitch, junior P. Jackson scrambles for yardage.

Team And Individual Record Set In 1985



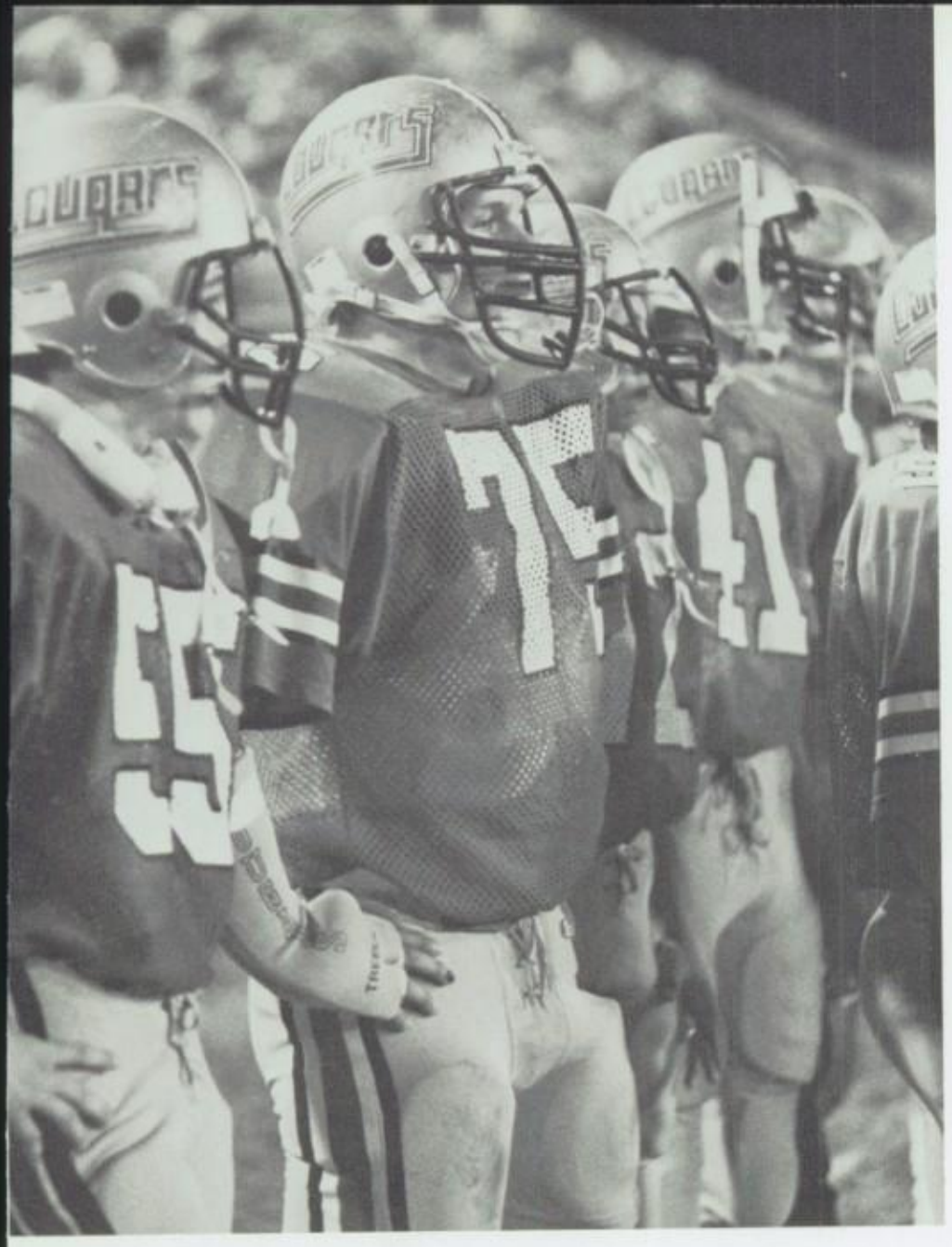
In a bid for yardage, senior split end S. Welker hurdles a downed opponent.

Row 1: F. Crawford, S. Stewart, R. Grimm, B. Fawcett, T. Fiegel, S. Welker, B. Clay, J. Gerold, M. Fisher, Z. Fish, M. Waldron. Row 2: M. Moraw, M. Hernandez, P. Foreman, V. Barnhart, M. Wollet, A. Heath, T. Treece, B. Priest, P. Jackson, L. Ingol, T. Temple. Row 3: J. Gerold, D. Mitchener, B. Witherow, C. Jewell, M. Boaz, J. Burkheimer, C. Thompson, D. Longstreth, T. Cloud, J. Moorman, S. Heiser, D. Taylor. Row 4: H. Waldron, K. High, B. Fawcett, J. Stricker, J. Hoffman, J. Bonifas, M. Baucom, R. Mengerink, B. Spray, B. Kampf, A. Collins. Row 5: A. Agler, D. Smith, Coach Hittle, Coach Bader, Coach Smelser, Coach Ragan, Coach McCauley, Trainer Edinger, Head Coach Buti, Coach Waldron, T. Tipsord.

Junior M. Moraw, seeking an open hole, follows his blocker.

Van Wert's defense puts the rush on.

R. Grimm exercises pass blocking against a Beth Wildcat.



Even on the sidelines, members of the defense are alert.

A family-type of cohesiveness existed on the 85 team. Consequently, the team had a great personality, which centered around enthusiastic seniors who had something to prove. Giving them depth were members of the junior class, who contributed physical strength and intelligence.

Several outstanding players achieved recognition by the end of the season. Senior B. Clay was named to the All-Star 2nd Team; seniors Welker and T. Fiegel and junior T. Treece received All-Star Honorable Mention. In the WBL, Van Wert placed the highest number of players in the school's history. M. Fisher, center; Welker, split end; Clay, guard; Fiegel, fullback and kicker of the year were all named to the WBL's 1st Team. Those named to the 2nd Team included P. Jackson, linebacker and halfback; J. Gerold, defensive back; and Treece, defensive tackle. WBL Special Mention went to B. Priest, off-tackle; R. Grimm, off-guard; B Witherow and M. Moraw, defensive backs; S. Stewart, split end; Gerold, quarterback; and J. Moorman and M. Wollet, linebackers.

B. Witherow moves in for a pass.

M. Waldron pursues his opponent.

Fullback T. Fiegel scrambles toward the end zone for another touchdown.

Coach and players follow the action.

Row 1: B. Burkheimer, G. Mosier, D. Coleman, G. Stevens, M. Casarez, R. Kovar, L. Reed, J. Tribolet. Row 2: Coach Edinger, M. Springer, B. Sutton, J.D. Smith, R. McGough, T. Temple, S. Neate, C. Gemmer, Coach Waldron. Row 3: M. Murphy, C. Haller, D. Mefford, M. Sinning, A. Frantz, C. Harter, J. Habegger, T.J. Grimm.

Freshmen Football Team

The Freshmen Football Team opened its season against the eventual league champion Celina Bulldogs. After this loss, members of the team regrouped and buckled down to work on offense and pass defense. The team lost the following three games, but patience and hard work finally prevailed. Van Wert defeated Ottawa Glandorf with a score of 14-8. This win was then followed by the stunning victory over Shawnee, with a score of 30-8. Because the final games were dropped from the schedule, the Freshmen Football Team joined the Reserve Team, and together they upset Elida with a 22-18 win. At season's end, the Freshmen Football Team posted a record of 4-3. However, it was what the members learned during the year that made the season worthwhile: team play, offensive and defensive plays, and patience and endurance.

Freshmen join JV players for their final game.

J.V. Volleyball Team

J. Moraw concentrates on serving the ball.

Row 1: S. Waldron, J. Kramer, J. Dunlap. Row 2: J. Bailey, C. Butler, J. Moraw, C. Grant. Row 3: Coach Thomas, S. Linton, E. Eikenbary, J. Anderson, C. Dunlap, J. Kleman, Coach Hurless.

Spike that ball!

Poised, the team anticipates the attack.

Youth dominated the 1985 Junior Varsity Volleyball Squad. With only two returning players, the majority of the team was comprised of first year players. During the season, the Cougars were led by freshman captain J. Moraw in most statistical categories. The girls worked hard leading the offensive and defensive teams. By season's end, the team's record stood at 7 wins and 12 losses.

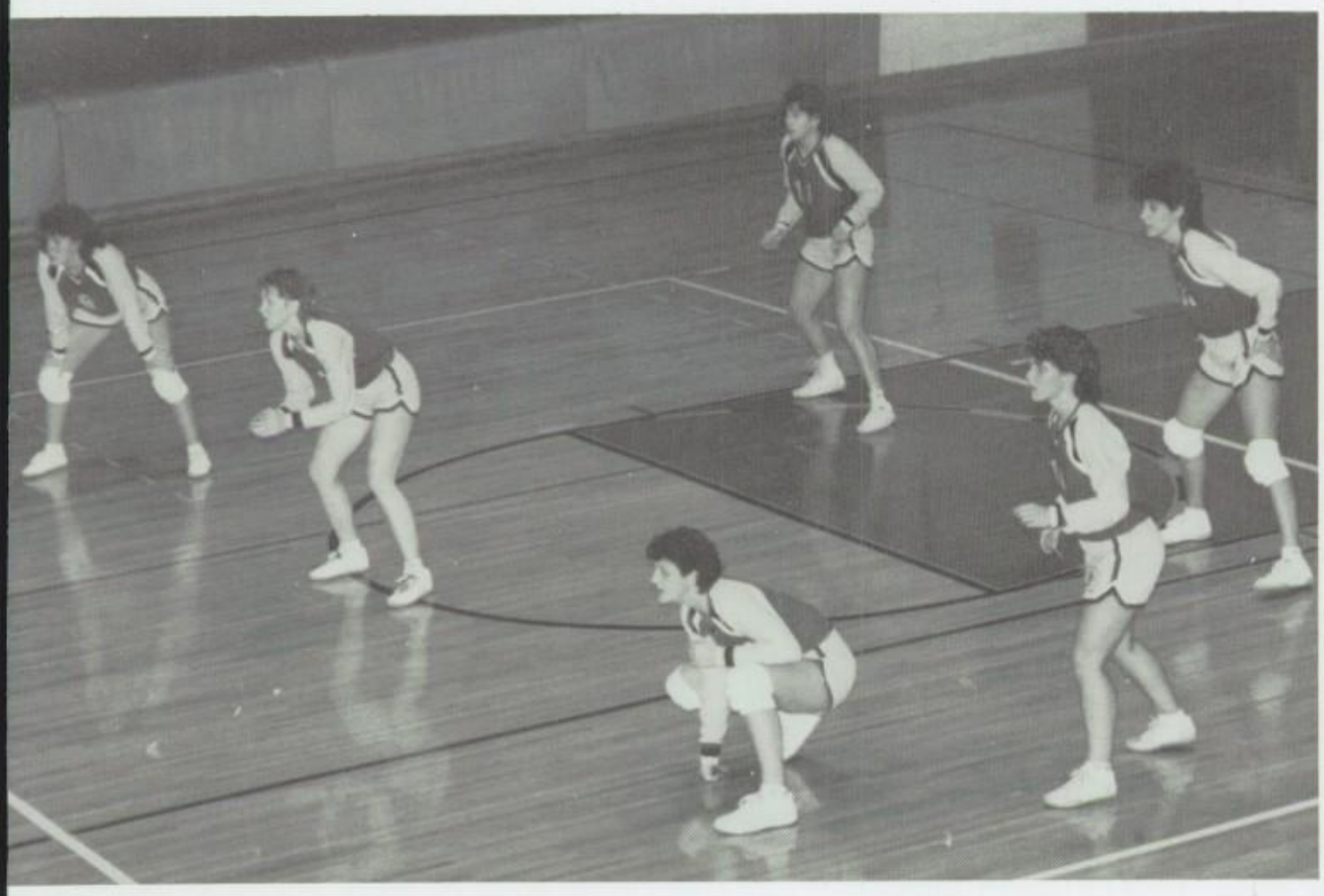
The Spikers carried on the winning volleyball tradition at V.W.H.S. in 1985 by passing, setting, and attacking their way to a 14-8 regular season. At season's end, after an initial loss in tournament, the final record tallied to 14 wins against 9 losses. Included in the season was the 6-3 WBL record, good enough for a third place finish. Overall, it was a very successful season, the second best in V.W.H.S. volleyball history.

Special post-season awards and honors were earned by several varsity players. Senior B. Debbe was named to the WBL 1st Team; District 8 1st Team. Class AA; District 8 West Division All-star participant; and All-Ohio Mention. Fellow senior S. Stricker received WBL Honorable Mention and District 8 Class AA Honorable Mention. Junior K. Ford received WBL Honorable Mention.

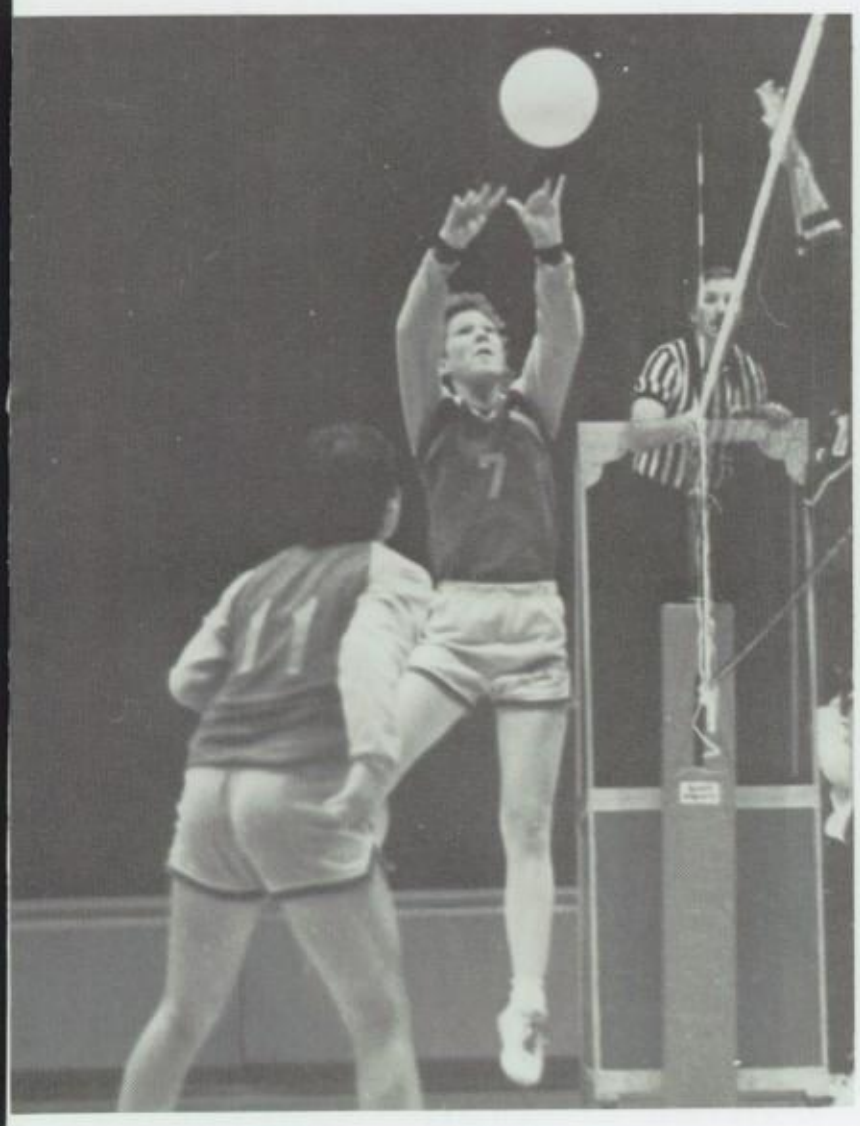
Senior team member S. Stricker readies herself for a return.

Seated: K. McClure, T. Polhman. Kneeling: K. Thompson, K. Ford, V. Creed. Standing: Coach Hurless, J. Nieman, B. Debee, S. Stricker, C. Temple, Coach Thomas.

Varsity Lady Spikers Establish Second Best Season In Volleyball History



The starting line-up of the Van Wert's Lady Spikers is one of determination.



Playing the net. Stricker goes up for a quick shot.

K. Thompson sets the ball for her teammates.

The Van Wert Golf Team completed the most successful season in the history of the school's golf program in the fall of 1985. After capturing the coveted WBL Title, the team went on to garner other prestigious titles, including the Class II District Title and the CLASS AA Regional Title, during which members of the team defeated the eventual state champions from Dayton by one point. At the State Tournament, held at the tough OSU Scarlet Course in Columbus, the team clinched the runner-up position.

Throughout the season, the team and its members established several new records, including an 18-1 dual match record. They then broke the record for the nine hole total by scoring 145 in a match against O-G. By the end of the season, the team had an overall winning percentage of 95.1, scoring 59 victories, 2 loses, and one tie. Included in this memorable season were seniors, T. McClain, with a 76.8 average; D. Sutton, with a 77.4 average; and R. Shultz, with a 79.8 average. Juniors G. Palombi, with a 79.5 average, and S. Stepleton, with a 77.2 average, completed the team roster.

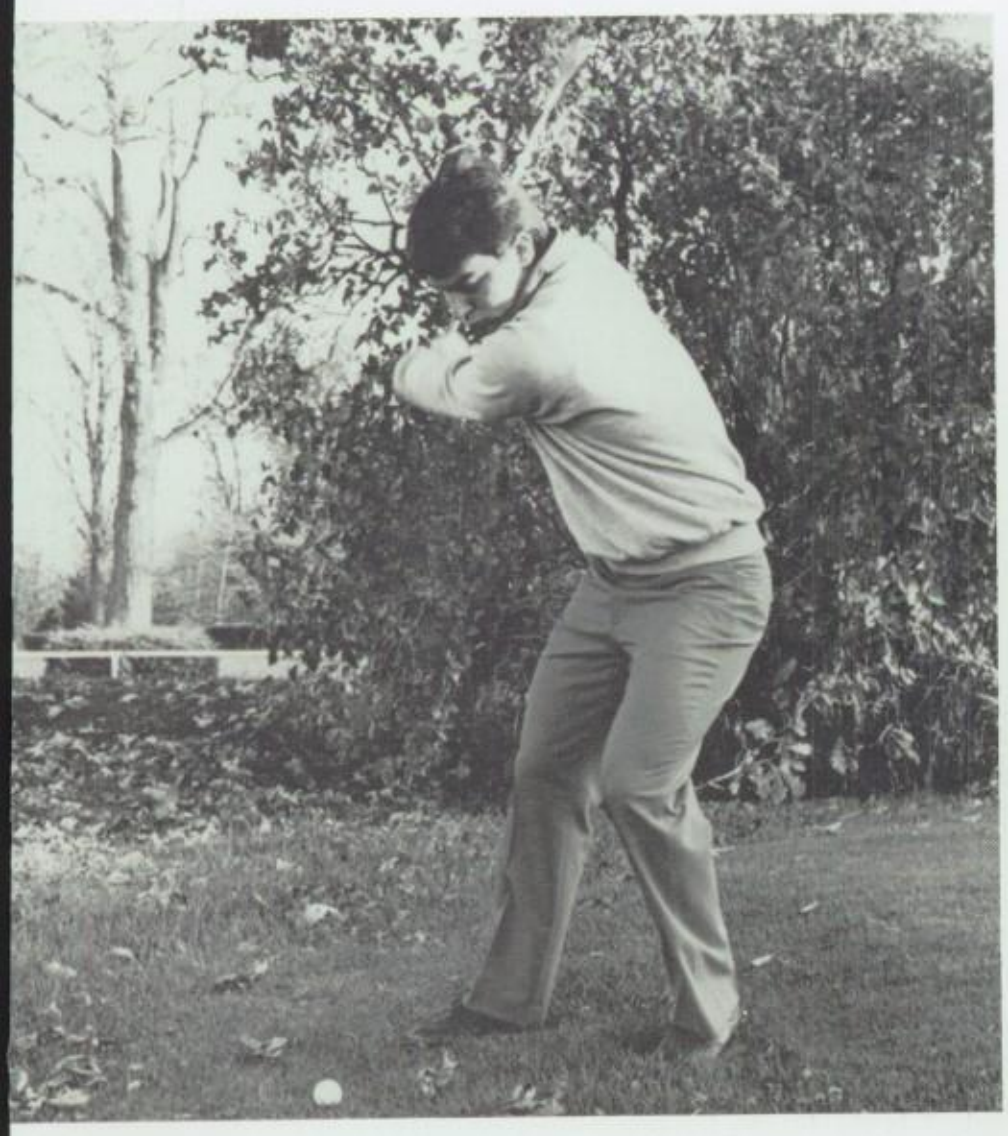
Using a gentle touch, senior linkster D. Sutton prepares to sink a difficult putt.

The Varsity Golf Team: D. Sutton, T. McClain, R. Shultz, S. Stepleton, and G. Palombi.

Senior T. McClain endeavors to escape the rough.

e Junior Varsity Team: K. Smith, M. Minnig, G. Williams, T. Coleman, T. Barnhart, Turnwald, B. Clay, B. Beck, G. Cross, R. Grossheim, C. Crosby, J. Fast, S. Greve, D. ant.

V.W.H.S. Golf Team Places 2nd In State Competition



S. Stepleton pauses at the top of his swing before sending off a long drive.

Total concentration is reflected on the face of R. Shultz as he heads for the cup.

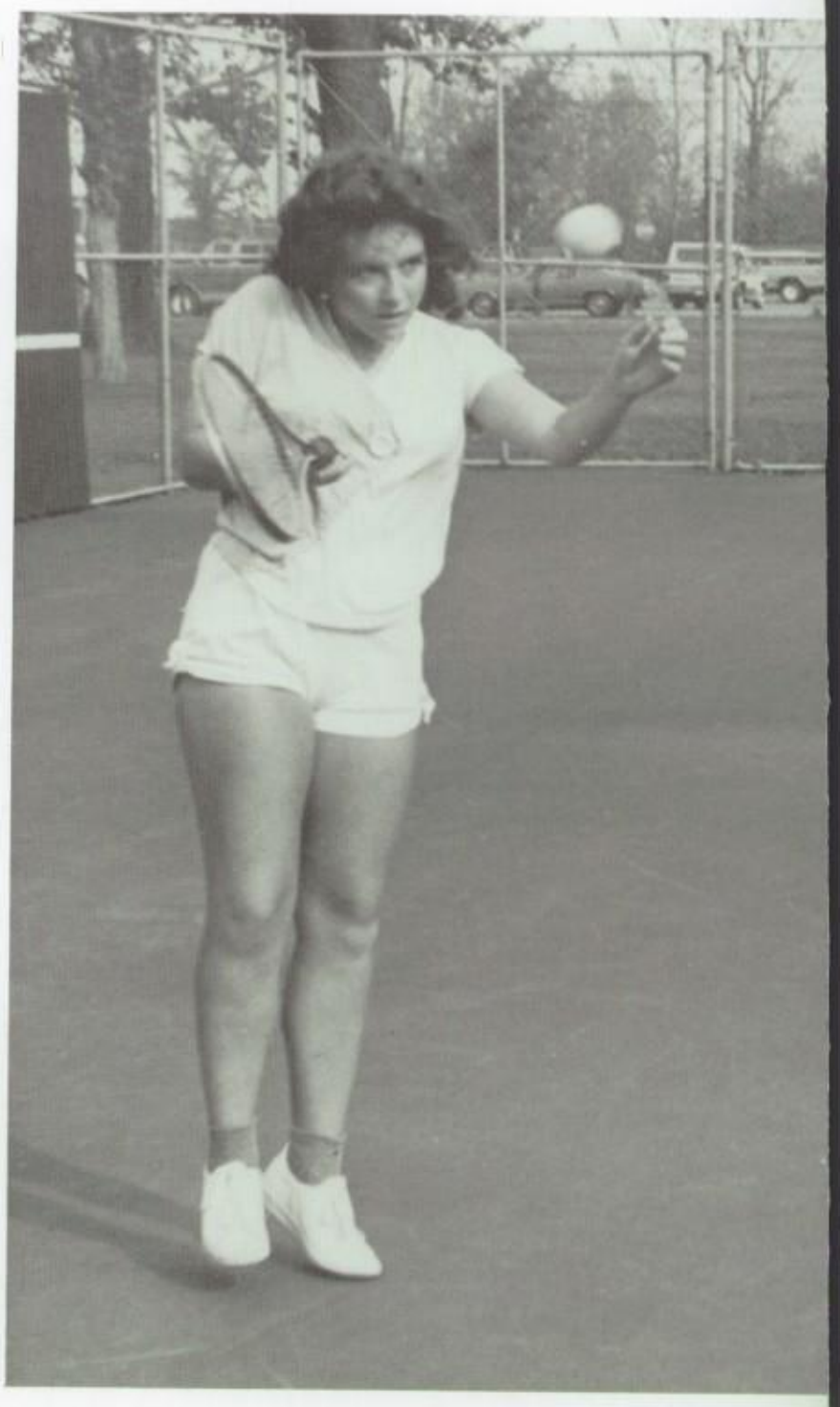
Members of the team proudly display the team's trophies.

By the end of the 1985 Girls' Tennis season, the team had finished with an 87 record and a fourth place finish in the WBL. During district competition, the team had enough strength and depth to capture the first place title, which enabled the doubles teams of J. Detwiler/C. Grimm and M. Ridenour/V. Sterrett to continue play at the regional level in Bowling Green. One highlight of the season was the defeat of the Shawnee Indians' first doubles team, previously unbeaten in their two years of varsity tennis, by Detwiler and Grimm.

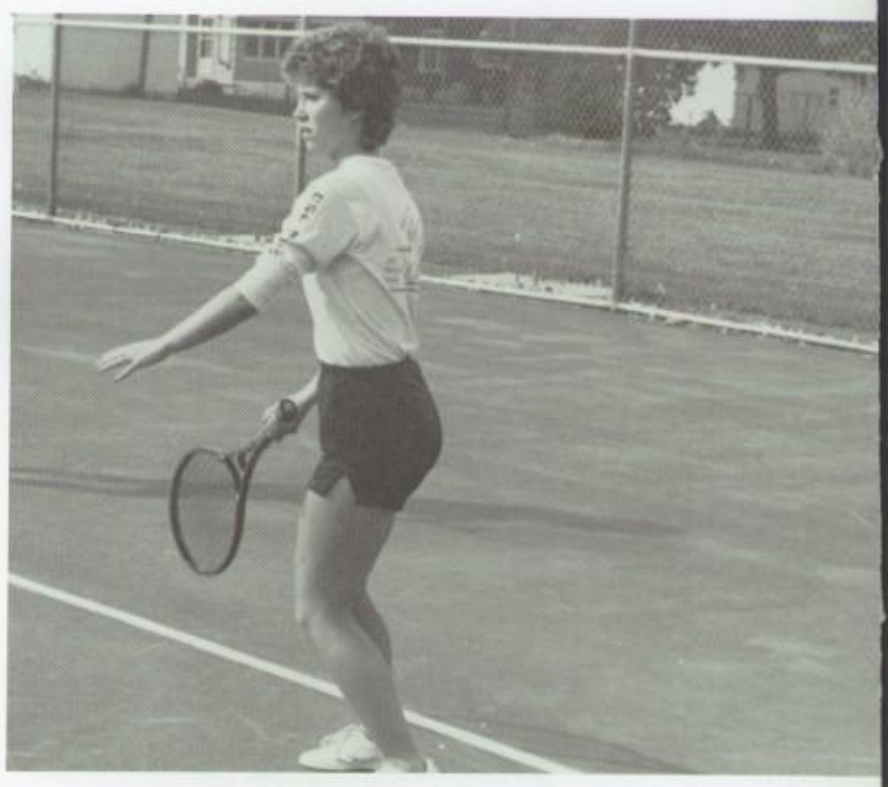
Two team players were honored at season's end for their participation and skill. J. Detwiler received the Most Valuable Player Award, and A. Adamy received the Most Improved Player Award.

Team members included M. Ridenour, 1st singles; V. Sterrett, 2nd singles; A. Adamy, 3rd singles; J. Detwiler and C. Grimm, 1st doubles; and L. Bonifas and C. Hoverman, 2nd single doubles.

Senior J. Detwiler stretches to retrieve a high serve.



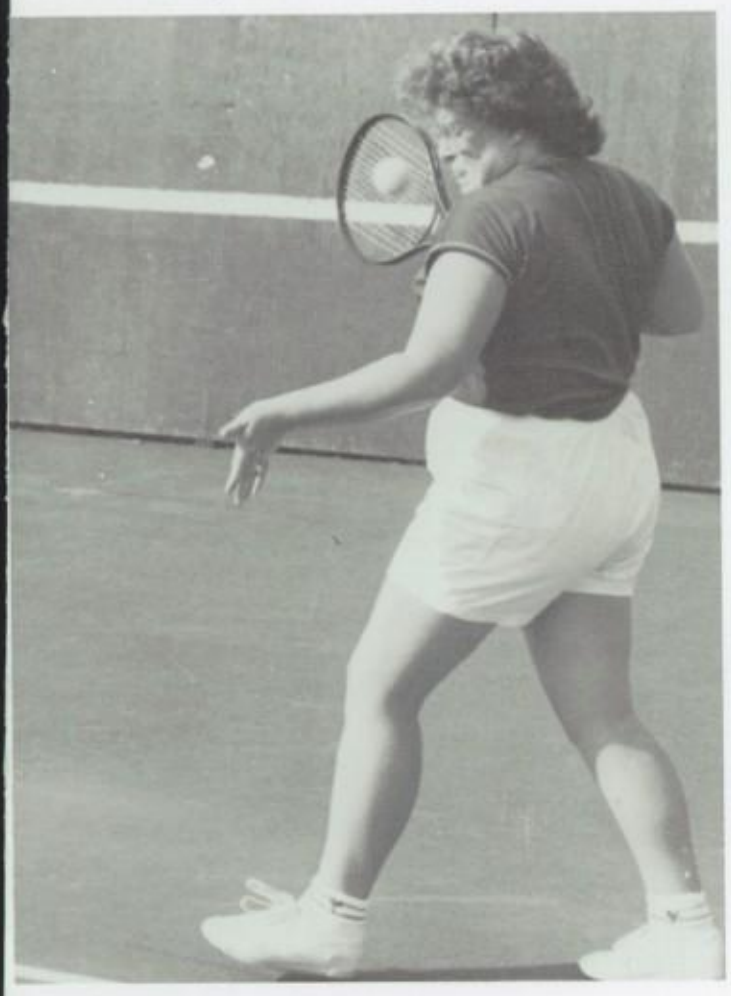
Keeping her eye on the ball, 1st singles player M. Ridenour returns difficult shot.



In preparation for her return volley, V. Sterrett steps back and awaits the ball.

Girls Tennis Team Nets District Championship Title

Row 1: L. Bonifas, J. Detwiler, V. Sterrett. Row 2: C. Hoverman, M. Ridenour, C. Grimm, A. Adamy. Row 3: A. Ravipati, J. Worthington, A. Carlson, K. Fox.



Playing number one doubles with J. Detwiler, C. Grimm contributes to a team win.

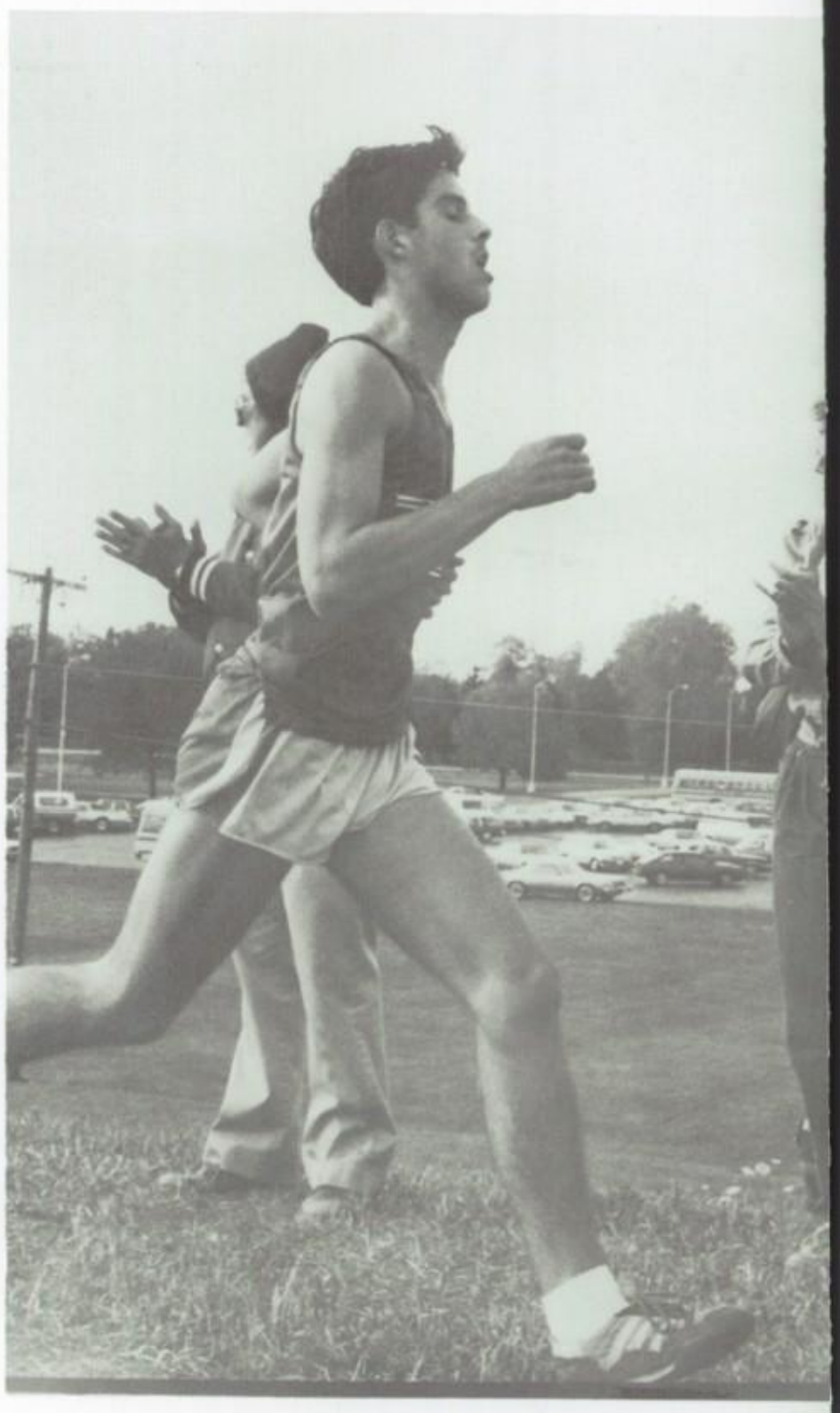
Practicing her shot. A. Adamy demonstrates the forcefulness of her swing.

The 1985 Cross Country Team established one of the best seasons in V.W.H.S. history. As co-champions of the WBL, the V.W. harriers brought home their third championship plaque in the last five years. With a dual meet record of 13-0, a first place win at the Wayne Trace Invitational, and second place finishes at the Bucyrus, Celina, and Van Wert Invitationals, the runners proved that once again the Cougars were one of the running powers in the area. The squad added to their success by qualifying the entire team for regional tournament.

Individually, senior S. Carter ended his high school Cross Country career with a season few will duplicate. Carter held the school record with a time of 15:55 for 3.1 miles. He had the course record at the Kenton Golf Course and was the individual champion of the WBL; consequently, he was the recipient of the coveted MVP Award. His greatest running achievement was qualifying for the state meet, where he fared extremely well among Ohio's top runners.

The Junior Varsity Team was also undefeated in dual meets and won all but one invitational. Prospects for another great season in 86 look good.

Entire Cross Country Team Qualifies For Regional Meet



As one of V.W.H.S.'s best runners, S. Carter strives to defeat his constant opponent, time.

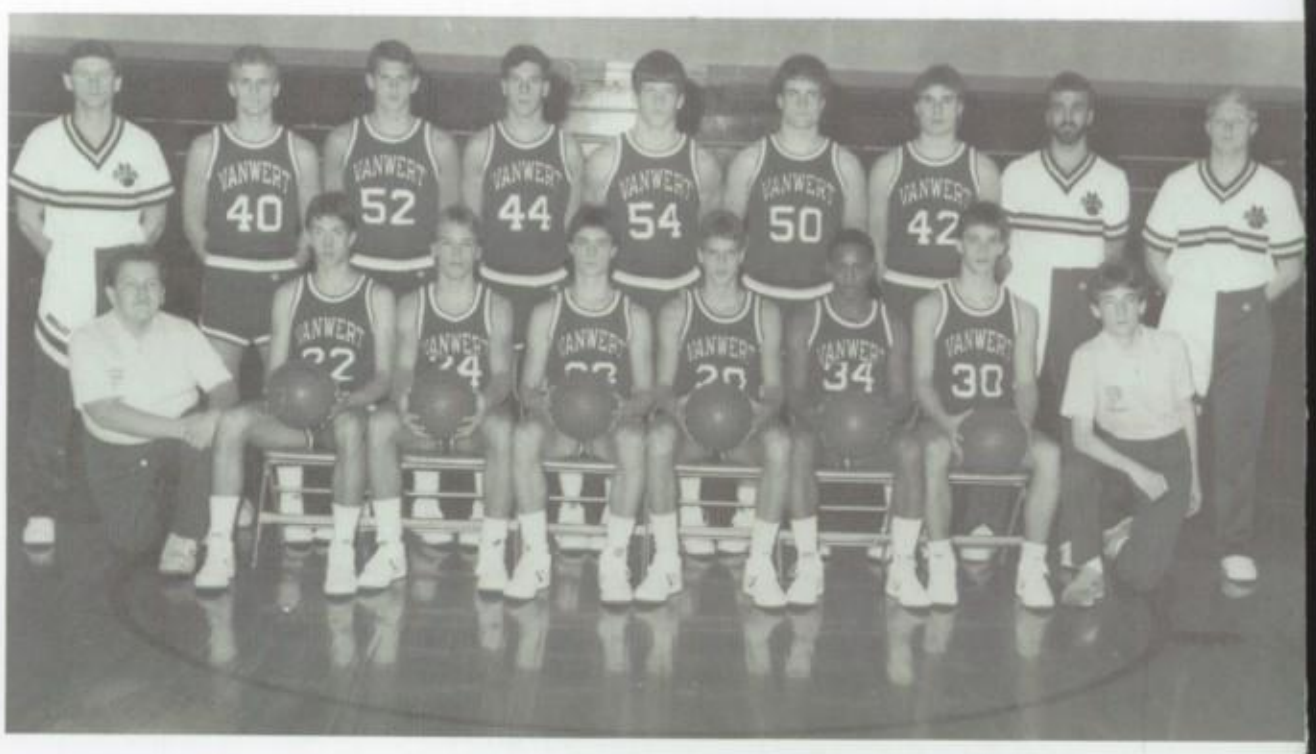
With the finish in sight, H. Monnig sprints.

Stretching out affords both relaxation and time for humor.

Staying one step ahead of his opponent, T. Habegger sets a grueling, demanding pace.

Row 1: E. Rogers, J. Forwerck, M. Potter, R. Frederick, S. Early. Row 2: Mr. McGonagle, D. Kline, T. Habeger, D. Upton, E. See, E. Eikenbary, M. Cox, L. Landis. Row 3: M. Eikenbary, B. Grot, K. Monnig, T. Bebout, C. Harvey, J. Benschneider, K. Roth, S. Carter, H. Monnig, D. Scheidt, J. Loughrie, T. Butler.

Varsity Basketball Team Captures 2nd Place In The WBL.

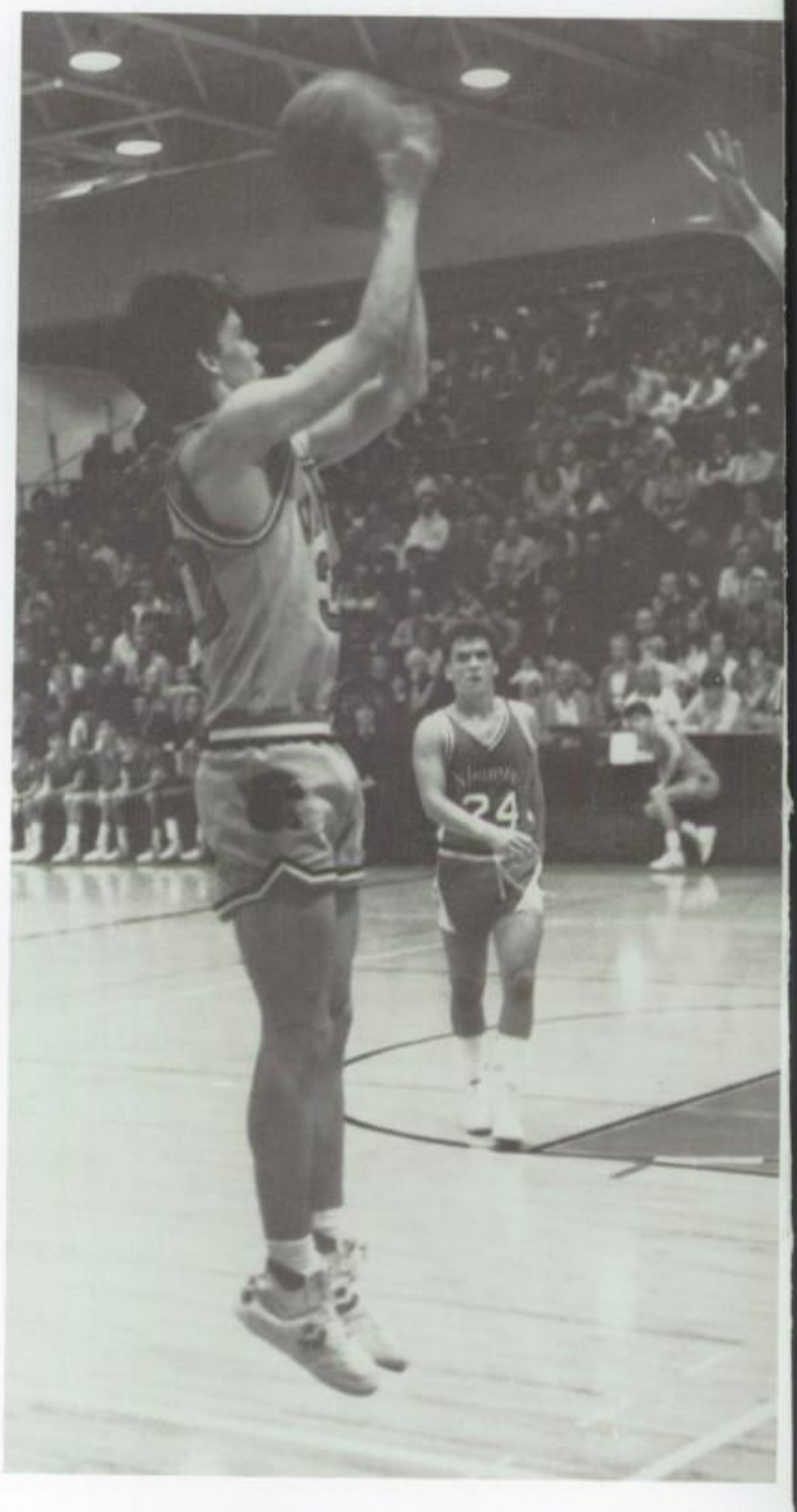


Row I: D. Smith, J. Closson, D. Adams, J. Gerold, K. Roth, K. Hardmon, R. Eikenbary, K. Seplak. Row 2: Coach Noftz, L. Moonshower, M. Evans, S. Welker, P. Jackson, Coach Branfield, Coach Bader.

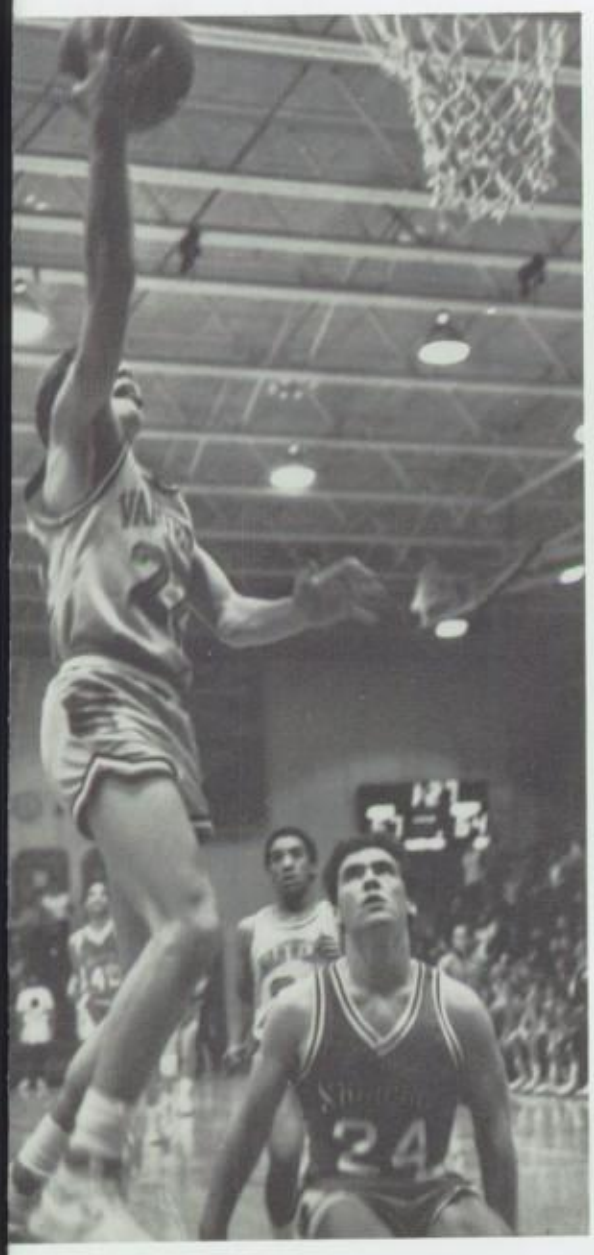
The Varsity Basketball Team finished with an overall season record of 14-8, winning 7 of its 8 final games. A WBL record of 7-2 was good enough for a 2nd place finish. With these statistics, Van Wert set the school record for the most WBL wins in a season.

The season was one of excitement. In an early game, Van Wert defeated St. John's by a score of 68-55. This win was the first regular season victory over St. John's in 23 years. The defeat of Defiance by one point garnered the 2nd place WBL standing. It was during this game that Van Wert set the record for field goal accuracy in a game, at 72%. During the remainder of the season, a new field goal average was set at 50%. Records for free throw accuracy were also set: season, 71%; game, 94%.

Several individuals received recognition. Junior P. Jackson was named to the 1st Team All-WBL, 1st Team All District and Special Mention Associated Press All District 8. T. Eikenbary was also named to the 1st Team All-ABL, as well as to the 2nd Team All District 8; he received Special Mention from the Associated Press. Senior J. Gerold received the Most Inspirational Player Award, while A. Mechling received the Most Improved Player Award. S. Welker was named the Top Defensive Player. L. Moonshower received the 6th Man of the Year Award.



Junior T. Eickenbary goes to the air for his shot.



A. Mechling makes a hook shot.

Stretching every inch of his body. K. Hardmon leaps high above his opponents.

J. Gerold jumps for a strategic shot.

K. Roth aggressively pursues two points.

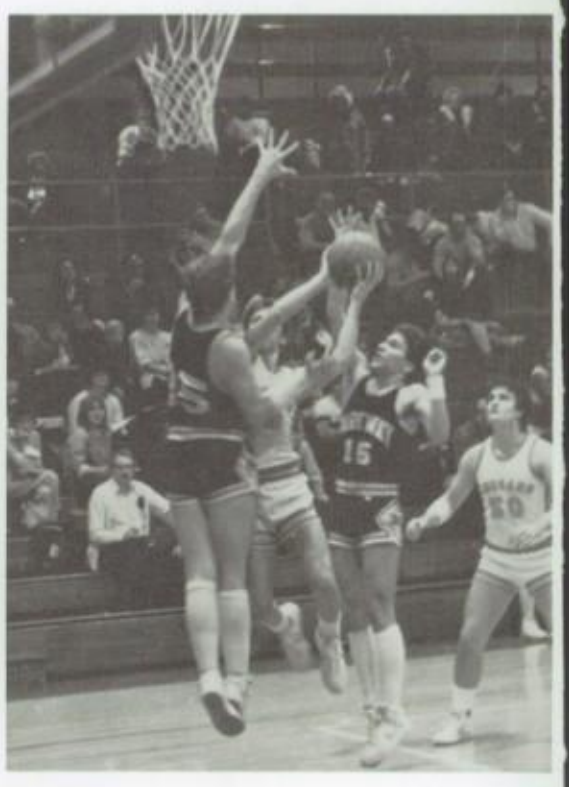
For the Junior Varsity Team, every game was important. However, the highlight of the season was the Defiance game. Undefeated on the home court, Van Wert played its final game in front of the home crowd against Defiance, the league co-leaders. Mentally and physically prepared, the Cougars won the game, with a score of 70-43.

Each game was a team effort. It was this team effort that earned the best Junior Varsity record of 17-3 in Van Wert's history. Winning seventeen games was the goal of the players at the beginning of the season, a goal they worked hard to attain.

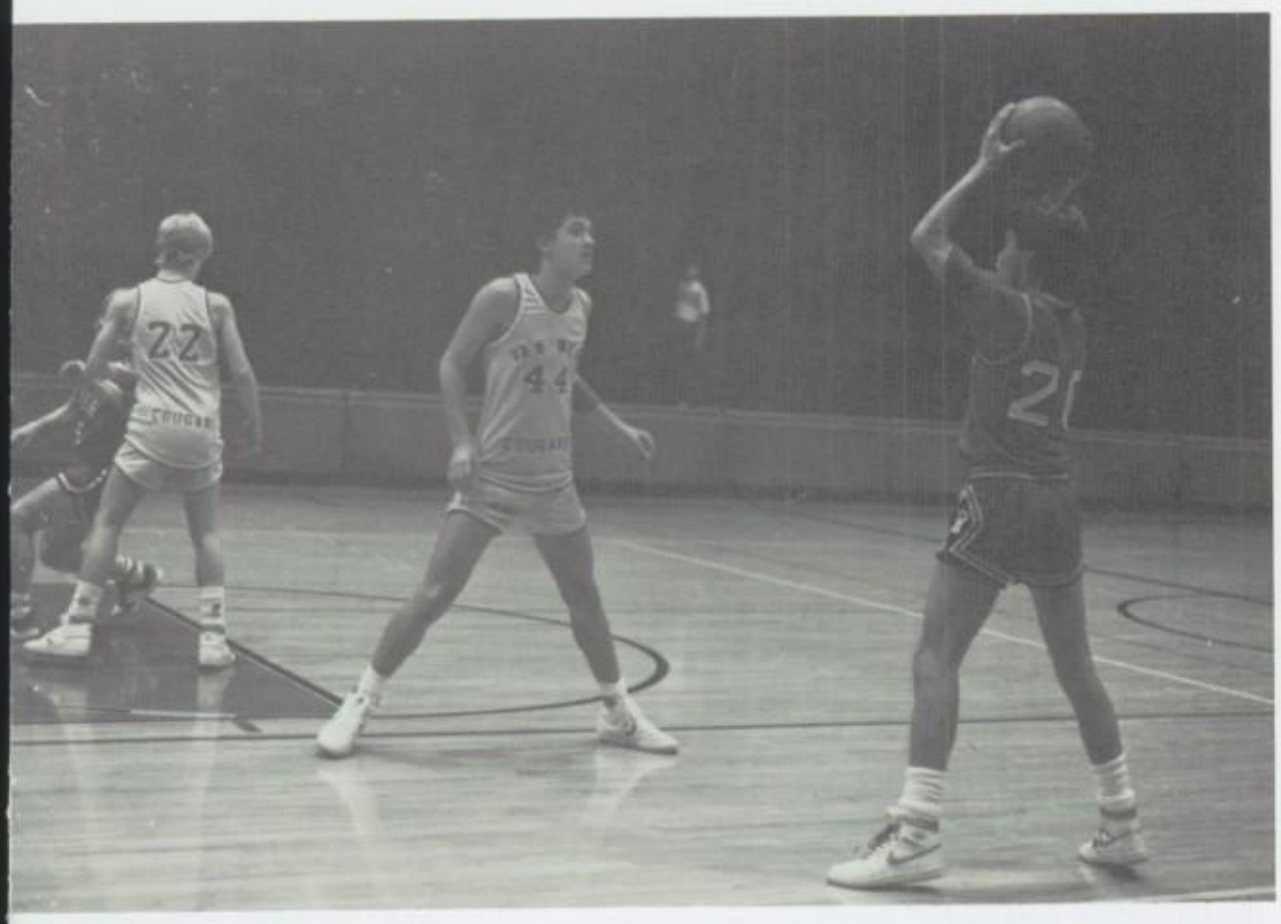
Clarence Kline winner A. Mechling makes a crucial lay-up.

Junior Varsity Basketball Team Hosts An Undefeated Season For Home Games

Row 1: K. Seplak, C. Crosby, B. Witherow, D. Scheidt, A. Mechling, D. Adams, A. Agler. Row 2: Coach Noftz, R. Cloud, M. Evans, J. Moorman, B. Dunham, B. Spray, B. Benschneider, Coach Bader.



P. Witherow reaches around a player from Parkway to score.



Freshmen Basketball Team Turns In 14-1 Season

M. Bagley displays his lay-up.

While opponents look on, K. Williams shoots for two.

Row 1: S. Foster, C. Covey, J. Scheidt, G. Mosier, T. DeCamp, J. Habegger. Row 2: B. Beck, M. Bagley, T. Bebout, S. Neate, K. Williams, M. Sinning, J. Tomlinson, M. Minnig, Coach Branfield.

The Freshmen Basketball Team established a remarkable 14-1 overall record in 1986, winning 13 straight regular season games. The only loss was to Ottawa Glandorf, but the team immediately turned around and defeated Ottawa, 41-34. During the last two and a half years, the Freshmen Team has set a record of 18 straight WBL victories. Statistically, the team shot 51% from the field and 65% from the line.

The Girls Varsity Basketball Team, under the coaching of Mr. K. Stalter, finished the season with an overall record of 7-14. In WBL action, the team finished with a 4-5 record. Although Van Wert lost the first eight games, by mid season, their hard work paid off, and they won six of the next eight games. However, VW's momentum then faltered. Of the final five games, VW won only one.

Several individual received recognition at the end of the season. Senior B. Debbe had the most rebounds and best field goal percentage. She was named to the District 8 All-Star Team and received WBL Honorable Mention. Junior K. Ford was the team's high scorer. She had the best free throw percentage, most assists and steals, and was named to the WBL 1st All-Star Team and District 8 2nd Team. T. Kreischer also distinguished herself as a rebounder.

Girls Varsity Basketball Team Ends With 7-14 Season

Fighting for the ball, juniors C. Temple and D. Breece use teamwork to defeat their opponents.

A. Culler scores another basket for the Cougars.

Varsity: Kneeling: K. Schaadt, C. Zedaker, B. Debbe, C. Hoverman. Standing: Coach Stalter, D. Breece, A. Culler, T. Kreischer, C. Temple, K. Ford.

Squeezed by opponents, K. Ford pushes the ball to her teammates.

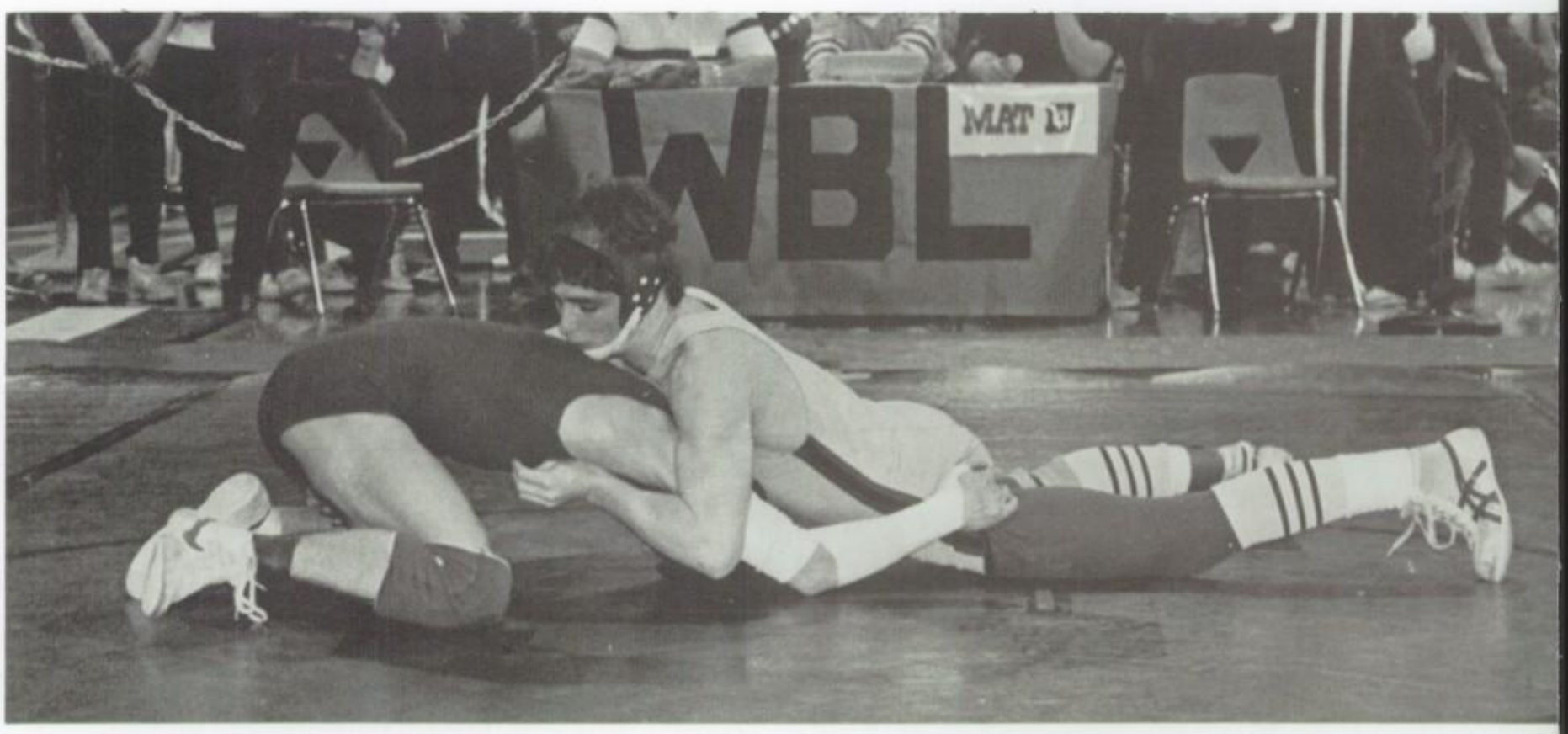
In her field goal attempt, J. Kleman is fouled.

Girls Junior Varsity Basketball Team Posts 2-18 Record

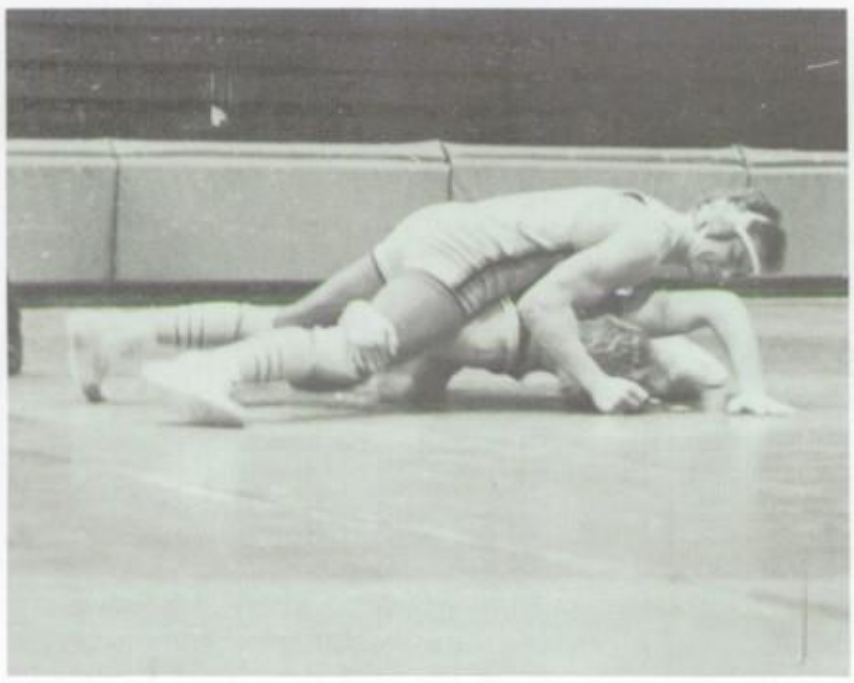
Coming in from the side, J. Moraw stretches for the basket.

J.V. Team: Sitting: C. Dunlap, C. Slater, S. Waldron, C. Baxter, S. Giessler, L. Sheets. Standing: A. Miller, C. Rawlins, C. Grant, J. Bailey, J. Kleman, J. Moraw, C. Wells, J. Dunlap, Coach Flory.

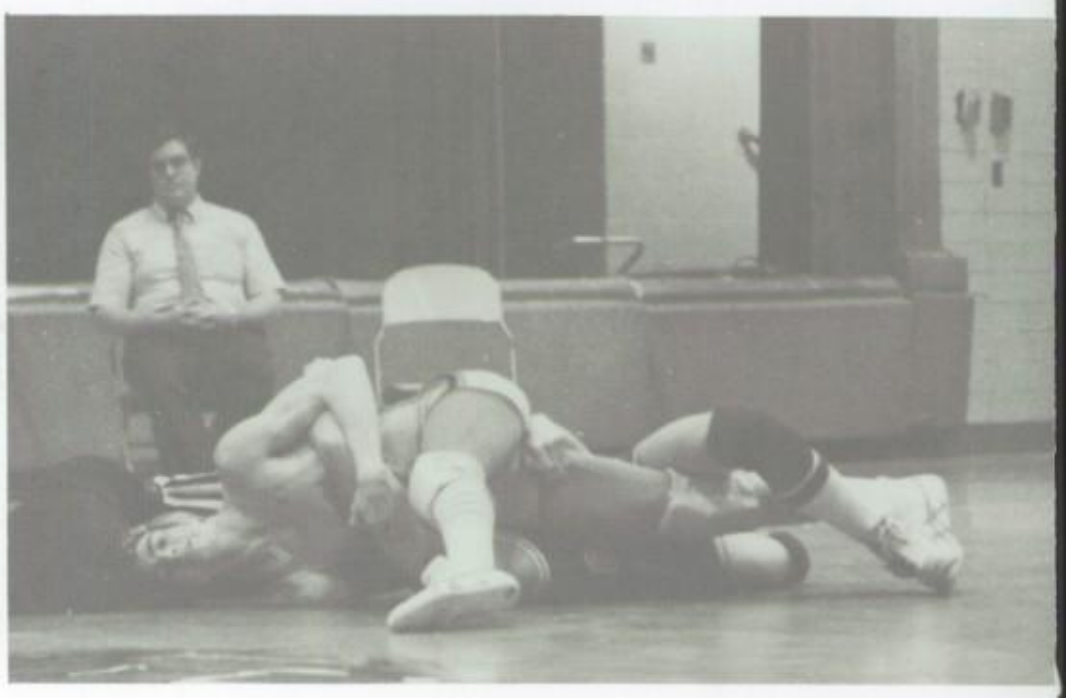
The Girls Junior Varsity Basketball Team posted a 2-18 record in 1986. Although the statistics in the win column seemed small, the enthusiastic members of the team continued to play agressively throughout the season. The team's two wins came as the girls hustled against their opponents from L.C.C. and Ottoville. On the court, the team was led offensively by freshmen J. Moraw and J. Kleman. C. Dunlap and J. Bailey performed key defensive action throughout the season.



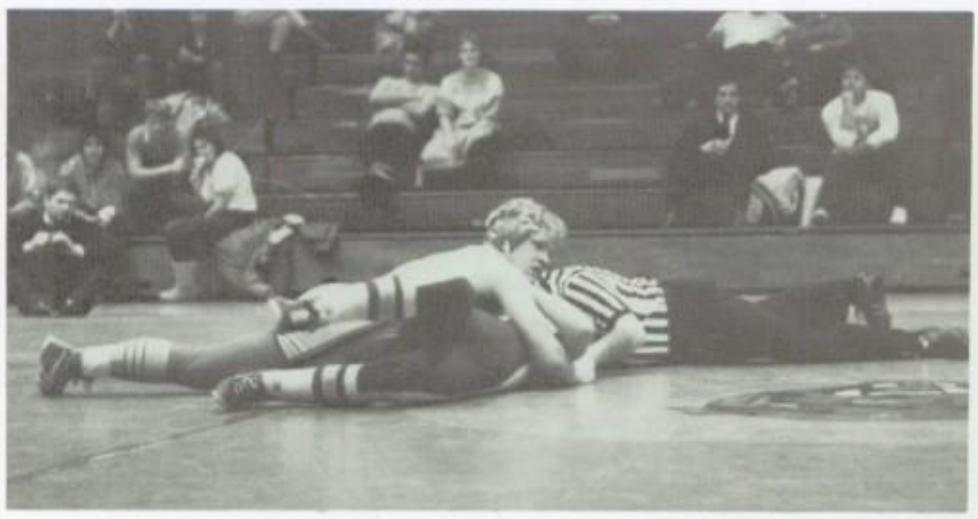
During the WBL Tournament, senior J. Mengerink defeats his opponent and eventually places 3rd in the 132 weight class. (photo by E. Moffitt)



D. Moon, a 2nd year letter winner, tenaciously holds down his opponent.

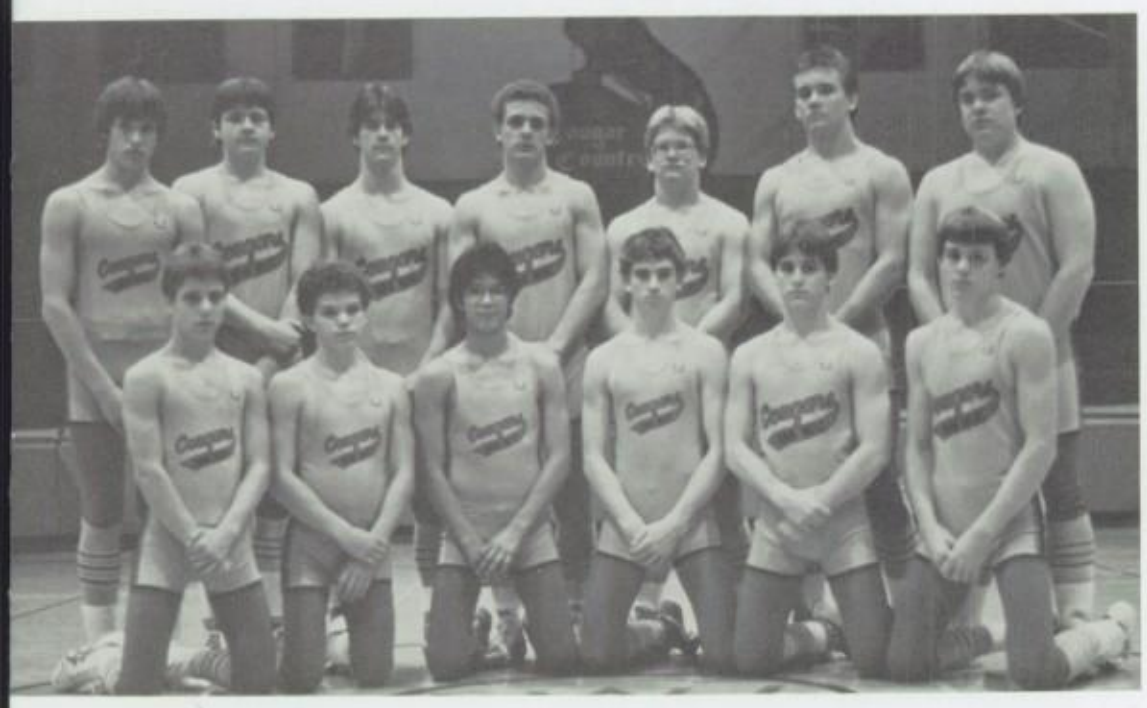


J. Stricker, the team's Most Valuable Wrestler, demonstrates his own creative hold.



J. Burkheimer maneuvers his opponent for a pin.

Wrestling Team Displays Dedication Throughout Season

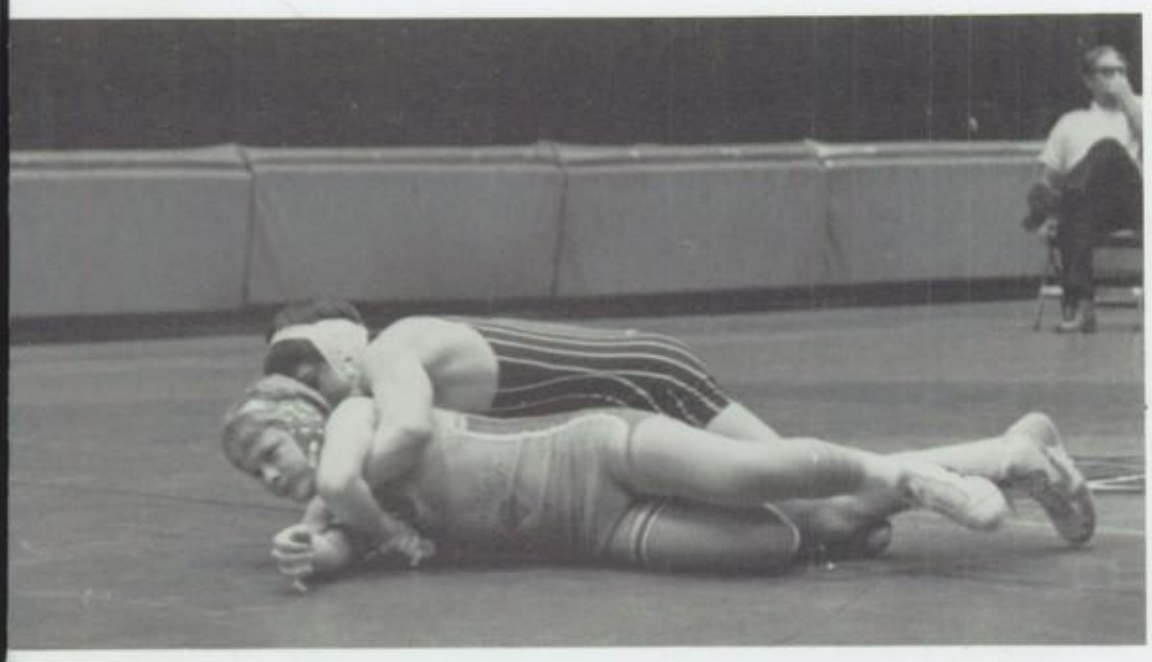


Row I: D. Finkhousen, B. Greve, M. Casarez, J. Stricker, J. Mengerink, R. Mengerink. Row 2: K. High, T. Temple, R. McGough, T. Trisel, J. Burkheimer, D. Moon, D. Taylor.

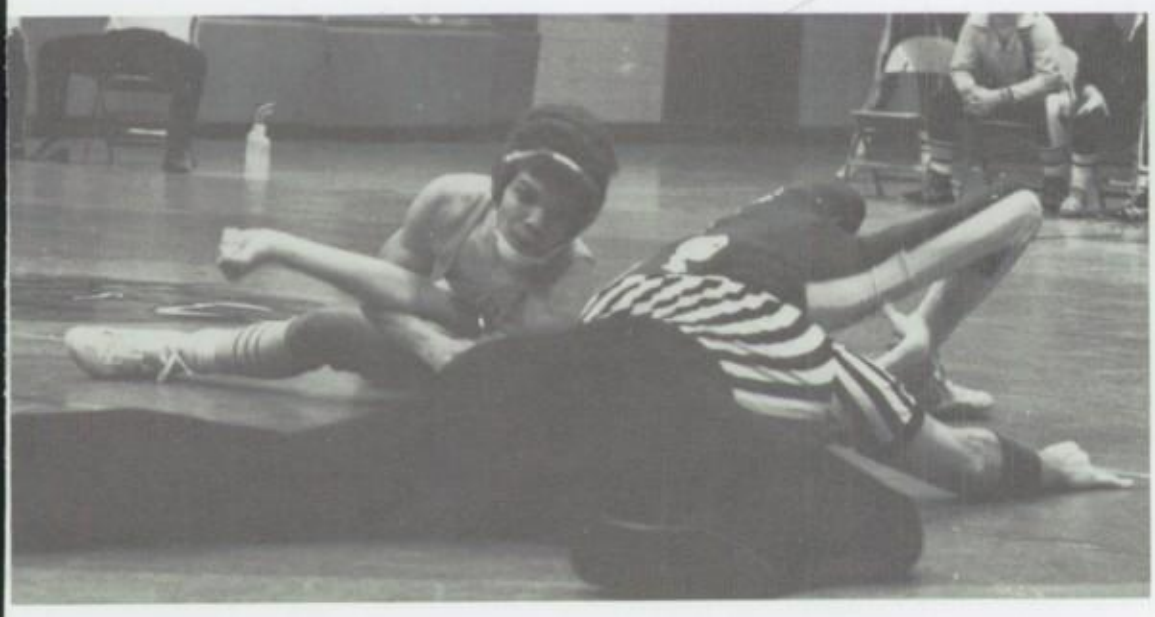
Van Wert's Wrestling Team ended the season with an 11-5 dual record. The team was 5-4 in WBL dual meets, which put them into 5th place. In tournament action, the team established a 29-7 record. Including district finish, the overall season record was 40-12, with an average of 41.4 points per match.

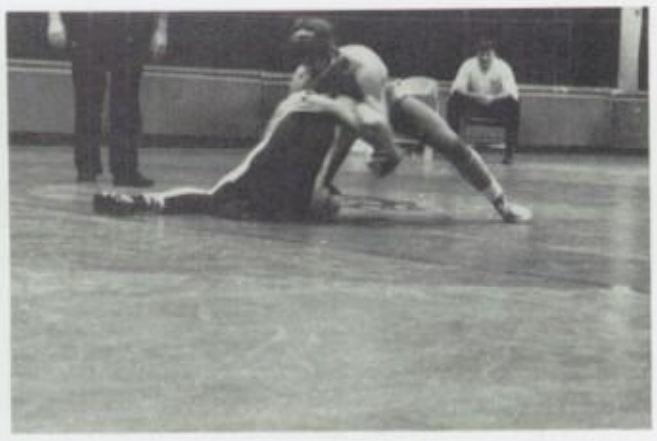
Five VW wrestlers competed in the Lima Area Wrestling Coaches Association's All-Star Meet for the Gray Team. Those who participated were R. Mengerink, J. Stricker, J. Mengerink, T. Trisel, and J. Burkheimer. Coach McGonnell was selected as one of the two coaches.

Dedication and pride motivated the individuals on the team. As MVW, J. Stricker set a 19-8 record, placing 3rd in WBL and 5th in District; he was the team leader for nearfalls (14) and pins (14), and he qualified for Regional. J. Mengerink, with a 19-10 record, placed 4th at District and qualified for Regional. With a record of 20-9, R. Mengerink placed 2nd at District and qualified for Regional. Mengerink was the co-team leader in takedowns (33), a title he shared with senior T. Trisel, who had a 19-8 season. Trisel, who finished 2nd in WBL and 4th in District, also led in escapes, with 22. As another Regional qualifier and 3rd place District finisher, J. Burkheimer ended his season with a 21-5 record. T. Temple, 11-16-1, placed 4th at District and qualified for Regional. R. McGough, who finished 6th in District, had a 14-12 record for the season.



B. Burkheimer, normally a JV wrestler, participates in the varsity match, where is works to escape a pin.





K. High works hard, giving it all he's got.

Football Varsity Squad: K. McConahay, J. Witten, K. Laukhuf, K. Mengerink, J. Steele.

Football J.V. Squad: M. Collins, K. Carter, M. Eikenbary, K. Zedaker, J. Baer.

Cheerleaders were an integral part of the sports program at Van Wert High School. Their tasks went far beyond just the weekly appearances at games. In reality, they were the leaders and promoters of school spirit. Generating this spirit didn't always come easily for the various squads, but their many colorful signs, messages, and assemblies worked toward that goal.

To prepare the girls for such activities, the members of the squads attended cheerleading camp at Kenyon College during the summer for four days. The girls attended clinics and seminars designed to teach them new cheers. It was during this time that they also met with girls from other schools who shared ideas for skits and spirit building programs. At the conclusion, Van Wert's cheerleaders returned, eager to begin a new and exciting year at VWHS.

Football Freshmen Squad: J. Geesey, L. Cowan, K. Kennedy, M. Baker, J. Worthington.

Cheerleaders & Mascots Enliven Spirit

K. Arn, as Claw'd, stirs up the crowd during basketball season.

Basketball Varsity Squad: K. Laukhuf, J. Baer, J. Witten, K. Zedaker, K. McConahay.

Basketball JV Squad: K. Carter, M. Eikenbary, H. Wettig, M. Cox, D. Farmer.

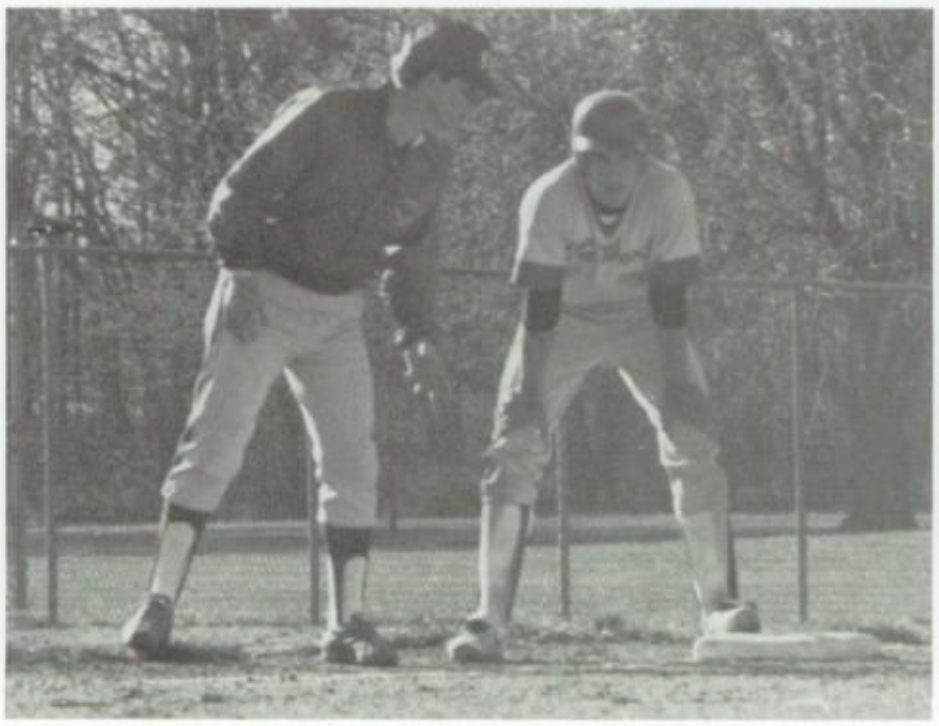
During the football season, junior J. Spridgeon performs as Claw'd Cougar.

Basketball Freshman Squad: J. Worthington, M. Baker, L. Cowan, K. Kennedy, J. Geesey.

The Varsity Baseball Team ended the season with a 5-19 season record and a 3-6 W.B.L. record. Good pitching and strong offensive play by team members contributed to the action on the diamond. However, work was needed on defensive play.

The Baseball Team had a busy season, playing as many as three and four games per week. An early win over Coldwater, by a score of 3-2, set the pace for the players early in the year. The team then went on to beat Parkway 5-2 and Lima Bath 15-6. In tournament action, the Cougars won the first game, beating Kenton 4-3. During Sectionals, VW lost to Coldwater, 3-2, in nine innings.

Four individuals were recognized for their skills: T. Fiegel, 1st Team WBL and best batting average; K. Hardmon, WBL Honorable Mention, best fielding percentage; M. Wollet, WBL Honorable Mention, best earned run average; and M. Moraw, WBL Honorable Mention, most stolen bases.



M. Moraw gets advice from Coach Schilb.

Pitcher T. Eikenbary winds up on the mound.

Row 1: M. Moraw, L. Moonshower, A. Heath, T. Eikenbary, T. Fiegel, D. Kline. Row 2: M. Waldron, B. Witherow, M. Wollet, T. Temple, K. Hardmon.

M. Waldron heads back for 2nd base.

Good Pitching And Strong Defensive Play Aid V.W. Diamond Men

T. Temple throws to 1st base.

D. Kline leads off 3rd base.

K. Hardmon puts muscle behind his pitch.

The J.V. Baseball Team had an impressive 15-4 season record. Members of the team celebrated after defeating the strong team from Defiance by a score of 3-1. Another potentially tough team fell to the Cougars, St. Mary's, by a score of 3-2. Throughout the season, pitching and defense were the foundations of the team's play. Aggressiveness at the plate, however, fell short.

There were several key players on the team. D. Gehres played well at 1st base, while S. Heffner was deep in left field. B. Spray, S. Neate, and J. Hoffman rotated as pitchers during the season.

J.V. Baseball Team Sets 15-4 Record

Row 1: G. Mosier, G. Stevens, B. Miller, T. DeCamp, M. Minnig. Row 2: B. Beck, S. Neate, D. Gehres, B. Spray, M. Chiles, J. Shupe.

S. Neate sprints to base.

S. Heffner contemplates stealing the next base.

Branfield coaches D. Mitchner towards home.

C. Dunlap executes the ultimate pitch.

D. Breece sprints the bases for another run.

1986 was the first year for interscholastic girls softball. The VW team had an overall record of 4-13 and a WBL record of 0-7. During the season opener, the enthusiasm of the team members generated a victory over Delphos Jefferson by a score of 12-5. As the season progressed, the team went on to defeat the arch-rival team from Crestview, 12-9. Much improvement was seen throughout the season. All in all, the statistics reflected a respectable season for the young team.

Several individuals received awards. K. Ford received Honorable Mention at State; 1st Team, Northwest District and WBL; most RBI's, and was the co-Most Valuable Player. T. Pohlman received Honorable Mention for District and WBL and had the best batting average for the season. T. Kreischer also received Honorable Mention for District and WBL. The best defensive player and co-Most Valuable Player was C. Dunlap.

Girls Softball Joins Van Wert's Sports Program

Row 1: C. Rawlins, A. Osborn, A. Hayes, C. Slater, C. Dunlap, S. Ingol, J. Moraw, M. Cox, D. Fiegel. Row 2: J. Detwiler, K. McClure, C. Saam, K. Ford, C. Temple, T. Pohlman, D. Breece, P. Pruden, T. Kreischer.

With a 15-3 record, the Track Team ended the year with the best season in VW history. Because of its competitiveness and great attitude, the team never finished lower than 3rd place in a major meet. The strong, well-balanced team featured depth in weight events, hurdling, and distance, which aided the 1st place win at the Elida Relays. Other major meets included 3rd place at the O-G Gold Medals, 2nd at Bath Relays, 1st at Coldwater Relays, and 3rd in the WBL. Nine individuals or events qualified for District in Oak Harbor: B. Clay in the shot; T. Treece and B. Priest in discus; F. Crawford in the 400m. dash; the 2 mile relay team; M. Hernandez, 1st in 300 low hurdles, 2nd in 110 high hurdles; and the mile relay team of Monnig, D. Roth, Hernandez, and Crawford. Clay and Hernandez qualified for state competition.

Throughout the season, team members successfully met the challenges. The performances of certain individuals, however, stood out. B. Clay consistently held the record for the 2nd best throw in the shot, 55' 1½; he was the WBL champ, Regional runner-up, and state contender. The 2 mile relay team of Crawford, D. Upton, E. Eikenbary, and Monnig, with a record of 8:14, was also champion at WBL and District. Regional qualifier T. Treece had a throw of 143'6' in the discus. Hurdler Hernandez was the leading scorer of the team, winning 1st place in the Elida, Bath, Coldwater, O-G, and District Relays. Distance runner Monnig was the 2nd leading scorer for the team.

VW's Track Team Captures 1st Place At Elida Relays

E. Eikenbary takes the hand-off in the mile relay.

K. Roth looks for personal record.

B. Spray works on the long jump.

State qualifier B. Clay perfects his throw in the shot.

P. Jackson sprints the 100 m. dash.

Row 1: C. Harvey, F. Crawford, B. Clay, Z. Fisk, J. Gerold, S. Carter. Row 2: D. Upton, H. Thomas, L. Ingol, B. Priest, T. Treece, P. Jackson, M. Hernandez, M. Boaz, H. Monnig. Row 3: M. Cox, E. See, B. Spray, D. Roth, C. Pollock, M. Evans, B. Dunham, E. Rodgers. Row 4: J. Habegger, C. Haller, T. Cloud, A. Franz, E. Reitzel, E. Eikenbary, T. Bebout, T. Temple. Row 5: J. Miracle, D. Smith.

M. Hernandez demonstrates his prowess in the hurdles.

Z. Fisk checks his postion over the bar.

B. Priest winds up for the discus.

H. Monnig anchors the distance relays.

The 3 wins and 14 losses were nothing to shout about, nor was the last place finish in the W.B.L.; however, the team did have some things to be proud of as the season came to a close. New school records, improved performances by every team members, and individual goals met were among those things.

Key injuries kept the team from winning some meets. These injuries depleted the ranks in number and thrust leadership roles upon the shoulders of freshmen and sopomores.

Performances by individual and the team were recognized. Records were set by S. Putman in the 400m. dash; the 3200m. relay team of A. Jemison, L. Cowan, A. Foy, and J. Kramer; and the 1600m. relay team of Jemison, Putman, K. Arn, and Foy. Special team award winners were T. Thatcher, best in field events; S. Putman, best in track events and most valuable team member.

C. Hoverman sets a good pace for the 3200m. relay.

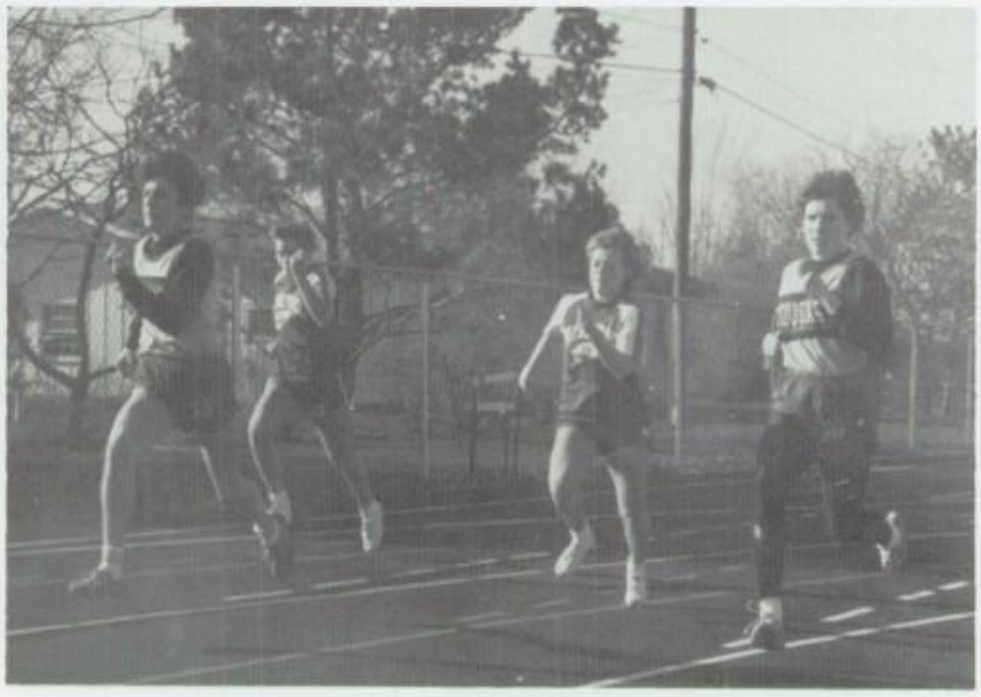
B. Thatcher looks for height in the high jump.

A. Jemison turns in another good time for her leg of the 3200m. relay.

Hurdler K. Arn shows her determination as she strives to pass he opponent.

Members Of The Girls' Track Team Meet Individual Goals

Senior newcomer C. Parkanzky warms up for the shot putt.



B. Debbe and S. Putman outdistance all in the 100 m.

Row 1: B. Thatcher, C. Parkanzky. Row 2: K. Arn, C. Hoverman, J. Kramer. Row 3: L. Cowan, A. Jemison, L. Sheets, K. Arn. Row 4: K. Carter, M. Collin, S. Putman, Coach Hurless.

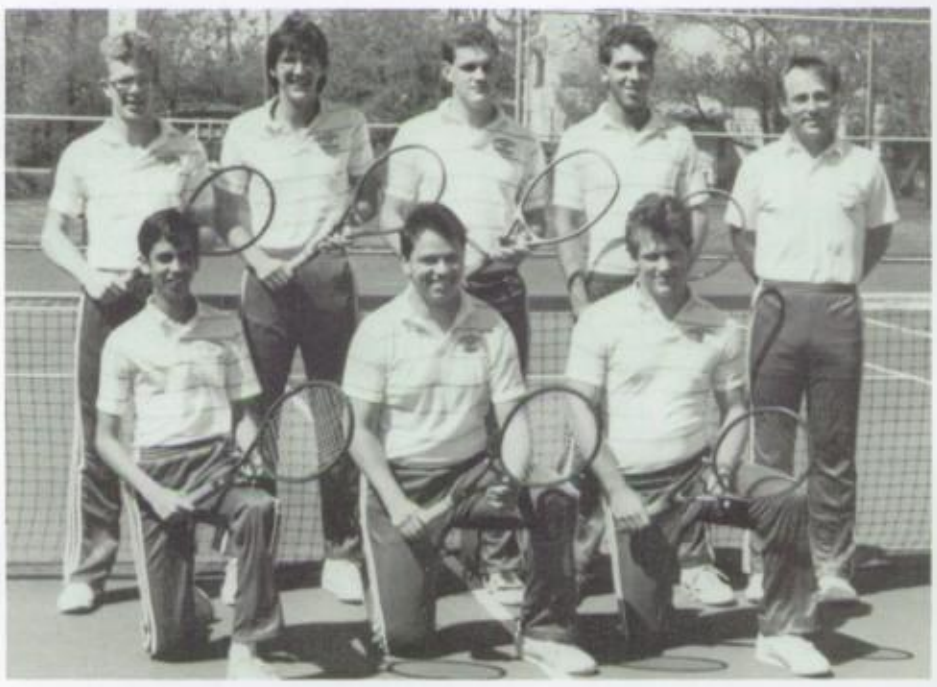
J. Kramer measures the distance of the long jump before taking off.

Despite pain, K. Carter runs her leg in a distance medlay.

The Tennis Team set a season record of 9-9. In WBL play, the team finished in 5th place V. Barnhart the 1st singles player, had a 13-5 record and a career record of 61-26. With the second most wins of any VW player, Barnhart won the Most Valuable Player Award. At 2nd singles was S. Upton, with a 11-10 record. C. Magdich had an 11-11 record as the 3rd singles player. Playing 1st doubles were M. Fisher and S. Welker. Fisher's record was 14-6 for the season and 52-37 for career; Welker's set a 15-4 record for the season and 44-22 for career. J. Mitchell had a 7-13 record, while Cherukuri had a record of 6-14.

The JV Team had an impressive season. With a team record of 42-7, members posted the most wins of a JV team at VWHS. C. Thomasson, with a record of 9-2, and T.J. Grimm, with an 8-2 record, were the top performers.

Most Valuable Player, V. Barnhart, covers the back court.



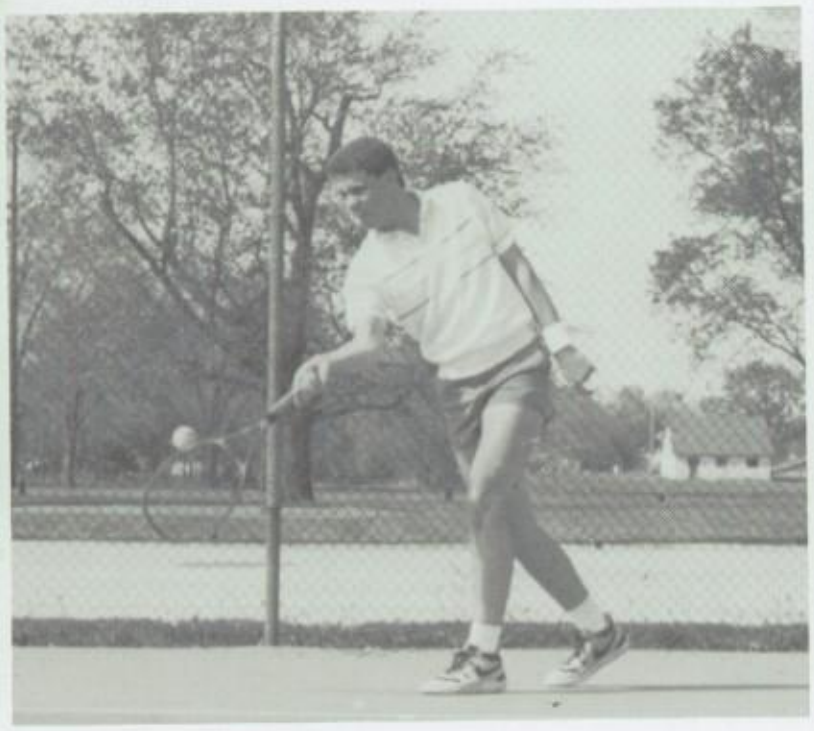
Varsity: Row 1: G. Cherukuri, V. Barnhart, M. Fisher. Row 2: S. Upton, C. Magdich, J. Mitchell, S. Welker, Coach Sullivan.

G. Cherukuri reaches high in an attempt to return a difficult shot.

3rd year letter winner S. Welker displays quick reactions.

M. Fisher returns a smash from an opponent.

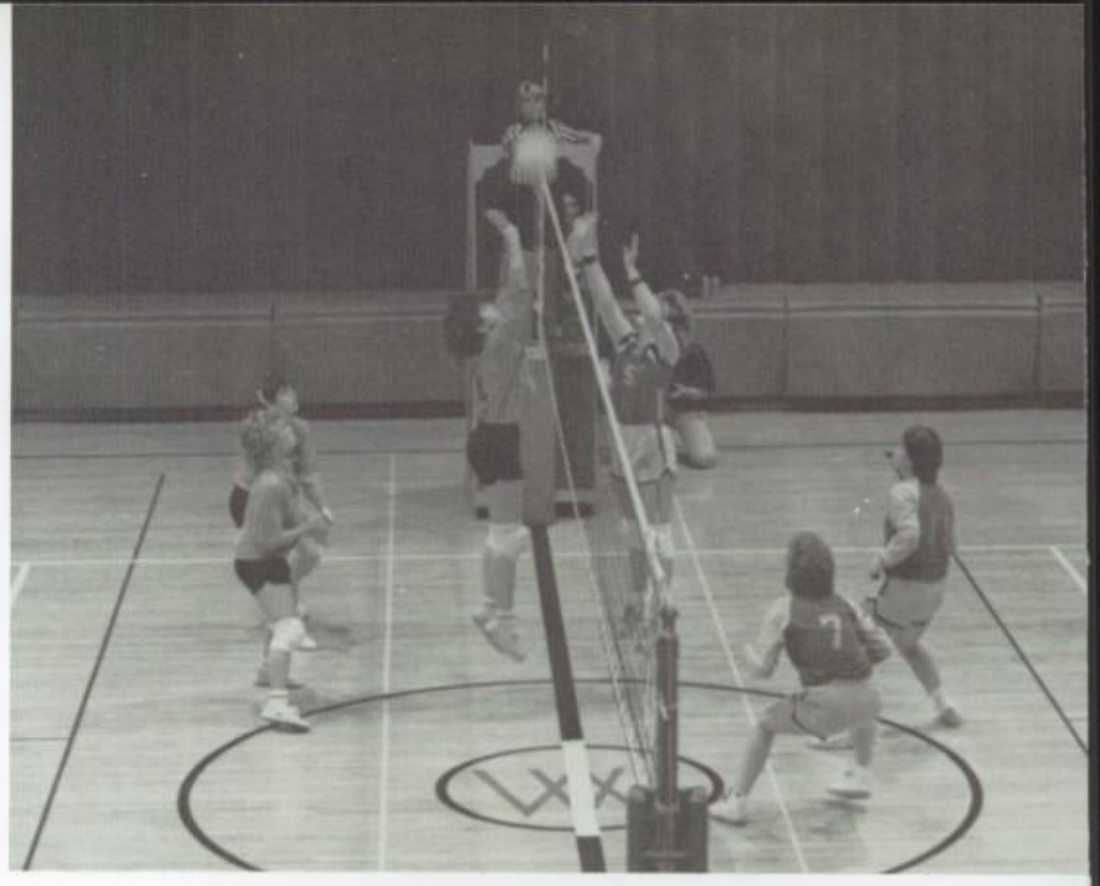
JV's: Row 1: S. Greve, K. Iler, T. Turnwald, N. Montanaro. Row 2: J. Hoersten, C. Gemmer, T.J. Grimm, J. Gemmer, C. Thomasson, Coach Sullivan.



With a strong forehand, J. Mitchell returns the ball to his opponent.

Van Wert High School had many winners in its athletic program. The winners were all those who participated, who braved the pain, the elements, and the personal odds. Some gained recognition; others did not, but they achieved or bettered their own goals. All participants who strove for success earned the respect of coaches and peers.

Here's To The Winners



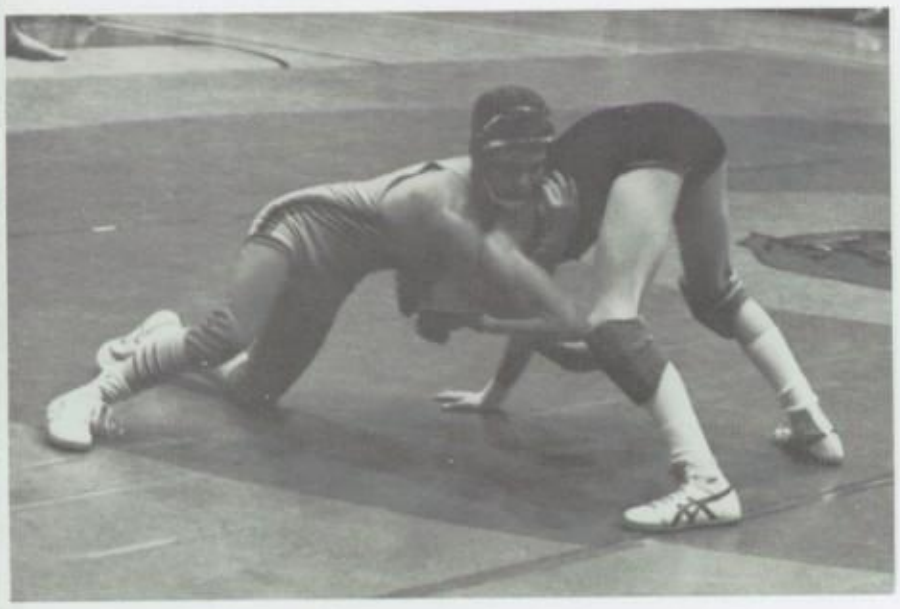
Volleyball team members cover the net during a match.

The Football team met with great success in 1985-86.

R. Shultz aided the Golf Team to its 2nd place State finish.

New to VWHS, softball provided another sport for female participants.

The cheerleaders stir a basketball crowd to action.



Wrestler B. Greve maneuvers his opponent.

Despite problems during the season, the Baseball Team fared well on the diamond.

V. Barnhart uses his backhand to defeat an opponent.

Good height helps T. Eikenbary in his shot.

In Girls Track, A. Jemison runs in the 3200m. relay.

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The 1985 Homecoming Queen and Court: A. Bowersock, C. Butler, J. Linser, C. Zedaker, Queen K. Green, M. Cox.

Homecoming 85 Brings Excitement and Festivity To V.W.H.S.

During the pregame ceremony, senior K. Green is crowned by D. Kimmey, returning queen.

The park-like area provides a quiet haven for some members of the student body.

The 1985 Homecoming brought excitement to the school and community. A special pep rally and parade, sponsored by the cheerleaders, brought all in the community together the night before the game. On Friday night, K. Green was crowned as the 1985 Homecoming Queen during the pregame ceremony. Attending her were seniors J. Linser and C. Zedaker; junior A. Bowersock; sophomore, M. Cox; and freshman, C. Butler. Escorting the queen and court were members of the varsity football team: T. Fiegel, J. Gerold, S. Stewart, P. Jackson, B. Witherow, and J. Stricker. After defeating Ottawa Glandorf, the Cougars, both players and fans, truly had a reason to celebrate. Saturday night brought the traditional dance, sponsored by the Excalibur staff. Couples danced slowly to the music provided by the Mengerinks. With the successes of the football team and the dance, the 1985 Homecoming was a festive occasion.

Taking a break from dancing, students converse.

Celebrating her last homecoming, senior K. Mengerink dances with Dave.

Seniors: Row 1: S. Stricker, J. Allen, R. Myers, T Tipsord, M. Fields, P. Pruden, J. Linser, P. Lowe. Row 2: M. Thomas, J. Detwiler, J. Fox, B. Debbe, B. Thatcher, A. Foy, M. Cook, A. Adams, C. Zedaker, J. Mowry, A. Webster.

The juniors keep the pow

The seniors celebrate their victory.

B. Thatcher sprints for a 1st down.

Kelly breaks from the pack.

Juniors: Row 1: S. Grot, T. Kreischer, S. Clem, T. Pulman, J. Grossheim, S. Anderson, K. Wagonrod. Row 2: K. Schaadt, B. Barton, B. Gribler, C. Saam, M. Stevens, T. Goudy, K. Ford, A. Culler.

rpuff game moving.

A. Culler gets off a pass.

Seniors Maintain The Winning Edge In Powderpuff

Members of the two classes meet for a battle of wits.

The seniors prepare to hike the ball.

After several postponements, the Powderpuff Football Game was played on October 22nd at Eggerss Stadium. The usual comraderie between the junior and senior girls during the day turned into fierce competition on the field. Coached by Mr. B. Edinger and Mr. Swank, the senior girls proved fierce opponents on the field that afternoon. B. Thatcher, C. Zedaker, A. Webster, and J. Fox all turned in spectacular performances for the seniors. The juniors, coached by Mr. Ransey, Mr. Mosier, and Mr. Sullivan, were led by A. Culler and K. Ford. At the end of the final quarter, the score was 12-0, in favor of the seniors.

"You Can't Take It With You" Captivates Audience

Donald and Rheba discuss the events of the night before.

Character actor E. Linser portrays Mr. DePinna, who prepares to pose for Penny.

Paul and Penny reveal their fears concerning their young daughter.

Members of the family wait for Gay Wellington to speak about her acting experiences.

Despite various problems, Alice and Tony finally decide to get married.

The 1986 fall play featured the comedy, "You Can't Take It With You." Set in the 30's, the play dealt with the crazy, everyday activities of the Sycamore family and the problems their eccentricities caused for down-to-earth Alice Sycamore, played by C. Hoverman, and her fiancee, Tony Kirby, portrayed by J. Mengerink. Alice's sister Essie, A. Hayes, was a ballerina, while her mother Penny A. Webster, was a writer, at least in the minds of these two. Her father, M. Sinning, made fireworks in the basement. These and other strange activities of various members of the family eventually caused hilarious confrontations with both Tony's rich parents and the Department of Justice; however, these problems were resolved, and in the end, everyone's problems were solved because of the philosophy of Grandpa, played by E. Moffitt. Other cast members included Ed, J. Thompson; Rheba, A. McCracken; Donald, T. Bebout; Mr. Kirby, M. Moraw; Mrs. Kriby, E. Pemberton; Gay Wellington, A. Foy; Henderson, J. Gerold; Mr. DePinna, E. Linser; Government men, T. Fiegel and S. Welker; Kolenkhov, V. Barnhart; Grand Duchess Olga Katrina, A. Carlsen.

Slave Auction Enhances Student Day

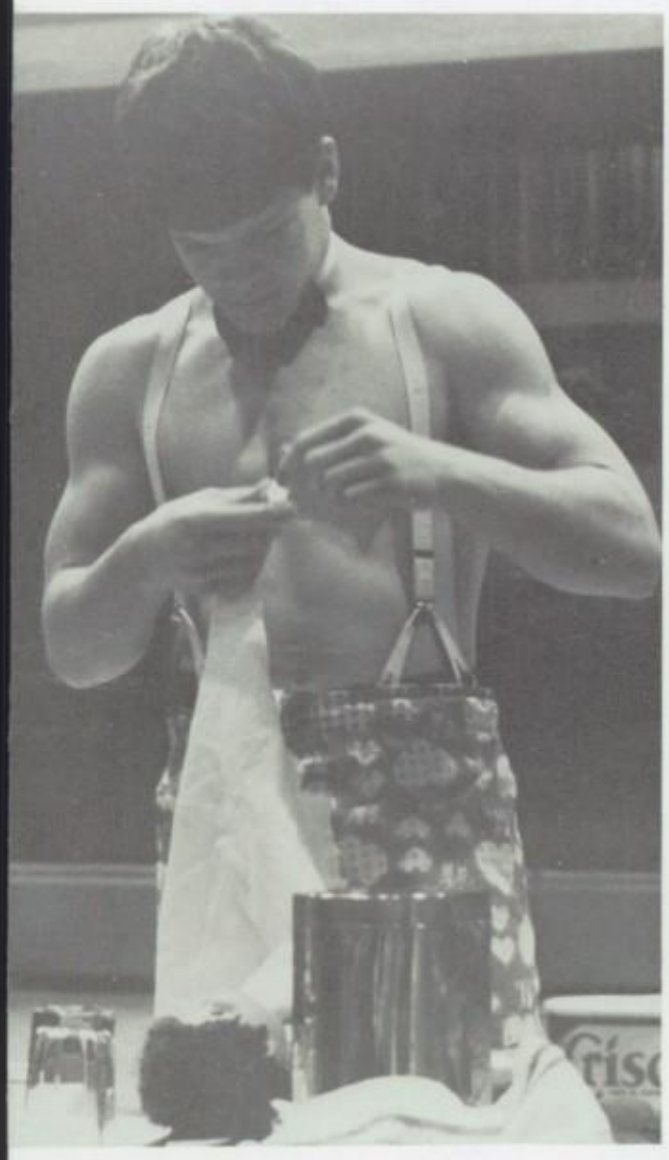
Quail eggs, Miss Morrison?!?

As a slave, S. Heffner displays his authenthic look.

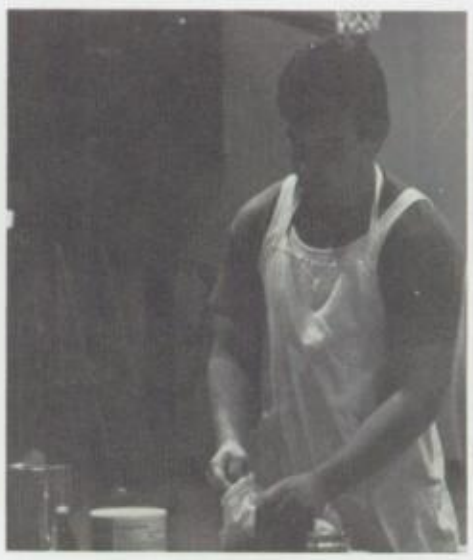
"Going, going . . . GONE!"

A. Bowersock and N. Proffitt prepare Student Council ice cream cones.

M. Whetstone organizes last year's yearbook pictures.



evealing hidden talents, P. Jackson shows why he's a eal Man.



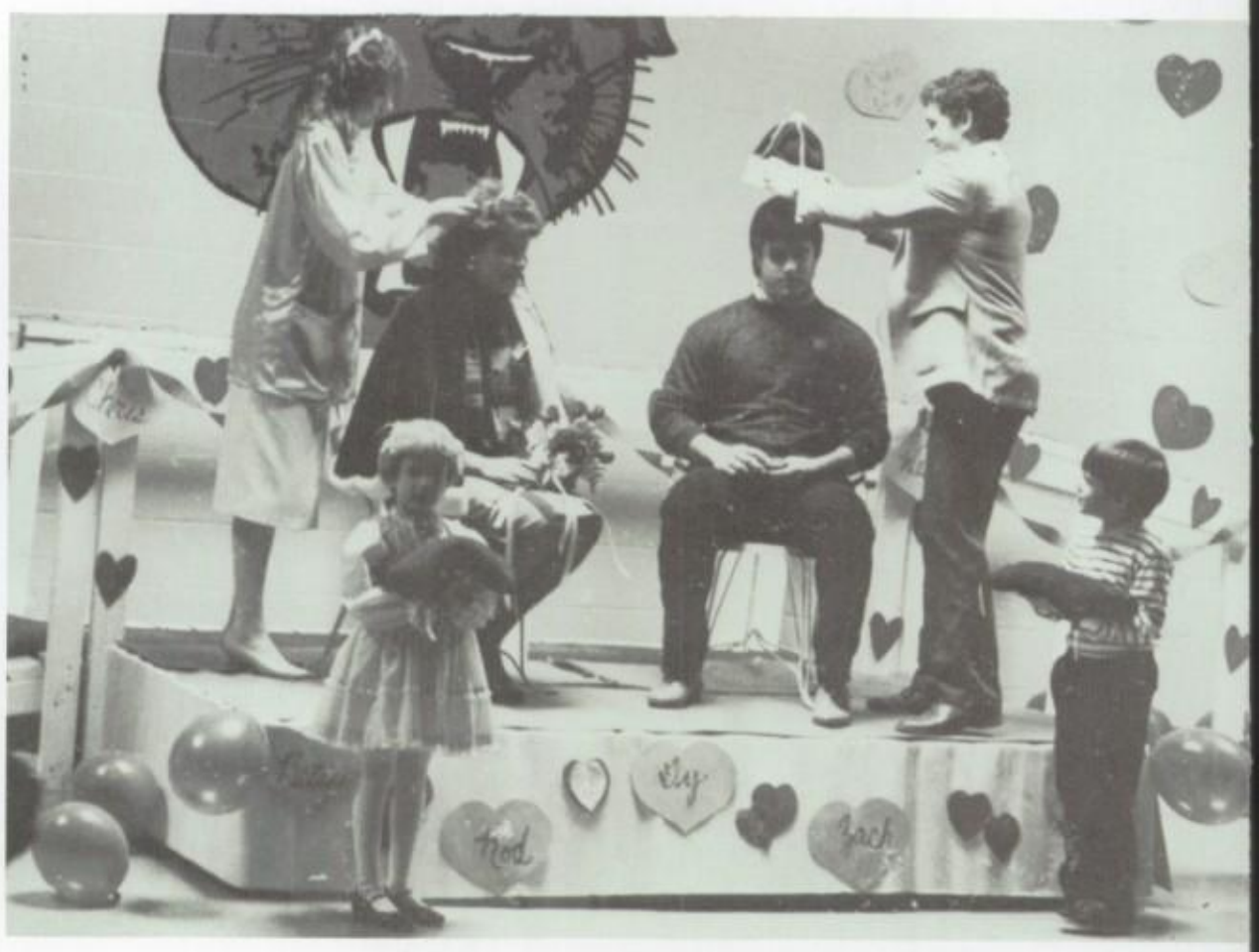
M. Lupton models the latest fashions.

. Fawcett and S. Purmort check all the equipment needed for the contest.

On February 28, the Excalibur Staff sponsored the annual Student Day. Due to creative planning, many new ideas were presented to the student body. The Slave Auction, sponsored by WBIL, dominated the activity in the morning as Mr. Grimm cajoled students into buying a slave for a day. While this took place, other organizations managed stands set up in the gym. Items sold included ice cream cones by Student Council, chocolate chip cookies by Home Ec. Job Training, Miss Morrison's quail eggs, Excalibur pictures, Latin Club's bread sticks, German Club's brautwurst sandwiches and root beer chug fest, French Club's balloons and lollipops, and Spanish Club's nachitos. In the library, members of A.V. featured their version of "Rambo II", while the I Can Class presented a video.

At the end of the day, students reported to the gym for The Real Man Contest, sponsored by FHA. Participants for this had to perform such tasks as diapering a doll, sorting clothes, sewing on buttons, bandaging a person, and peeling an apple and hard boiled eggs. Although many of the "real men" managed these tasks with agility, junior P. Jackson was selected as the true Real Man.

B. Thatcher and T. Fiegel dance after the coronation.



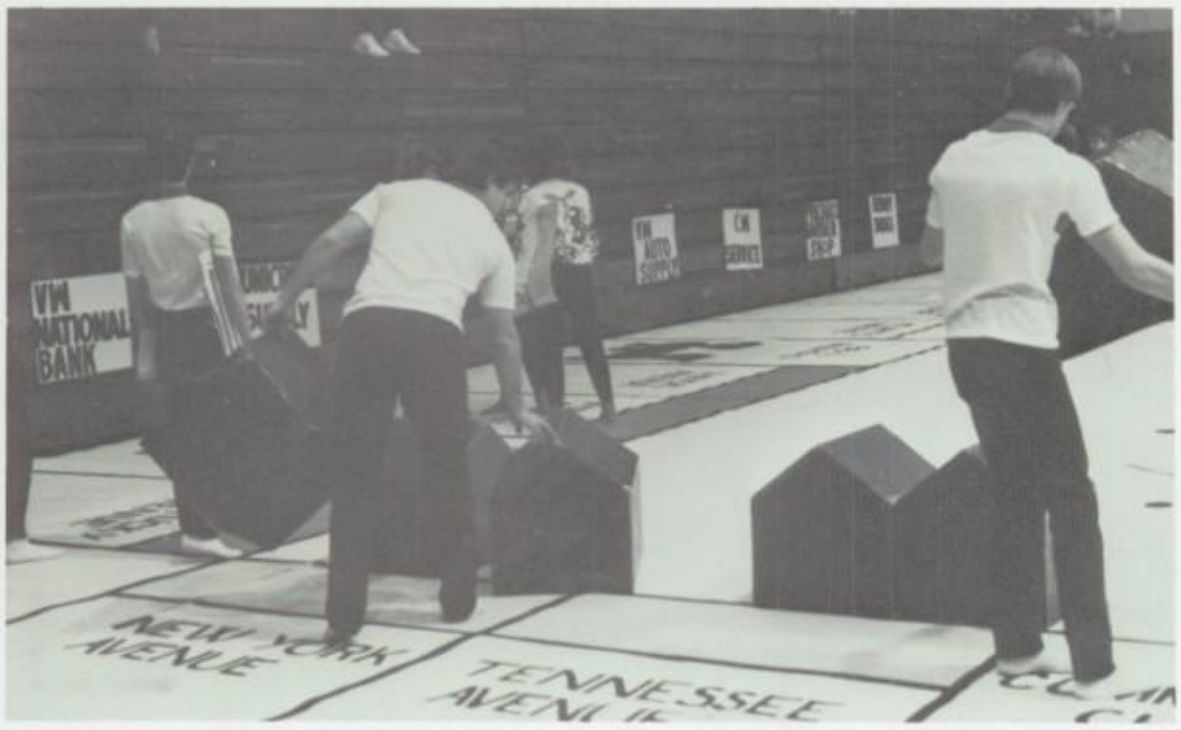
N. Villone and T. Stricker pass their reign to B. Thatcher and T. Fiegel.

Sweetheart Dance Kindles Romance

On the evening of February 1, 1986, couples congregated in the cafeteria for the annual Sweetheart Dance, sponsored by FHA. After the initial music, the senior candidates were presented. Six girls had been nominated for Sweetheart Queen: J. Linser, V. Niuman, R. Reagan, B. Thatcher, C. Turnwald, and C. Zedaker. The six candidates for Sweetheart King included W. Bolton, T. Fiegel, Z. Fisk, J. Mengerink, K. Roth, and R. Shultz. Returning to VWHS to pass on their crowns and titles were T. Stricker and N. Villone, the 1985 King and Queen. As the crowd quieted in anticipation, the names were revealed: B. Thatcher and T. Fiegel. Following the "coronation" dance honoring the royal couple and court, all joined the festivities. Food and decorations provided by members of FHA enhanced the environment, as did the music provided by Brian Boyd from Sound Check.

Queen Candidates: C. Zedaker, C. Turnwald, B. Thatcher, R. Reagan, V. Niuman and J. Linser.

King Candidates: W. Bolton, T. Fiegel, Z. Fisk, B. Fawcett (for J. Mengerink), K. Roth, and R. Shultz.



Cougar's Roar staff members oversee property changes on the board.

Keeping track of players and property is hard work.

During the game, J. Worthington and A. Ravapati get an official escort to jail.

"C'mon, roll doubles. We'll get another turn!" This was the sentiment of the players during the annual Monopoly Game, sponsored by the Cougar's Roar Staff. As players attempted to gain monopoly of the board, they met with certain fates: going to jail, paying sums of money when they landed on another's property, or amassing a fortune.

Seven teams competed: Spanish Club, with M. Riegel and J. Scheidt; Wrestlers, T. Trisel and B. Greeve; Journalism I — 6th period, J. Worthington and A. Ravapati; Journalism I — 2nd period: C. Gemmer and A. Bebout; Girls J.V. Basketball Team, C. Slater and J. Bailey; Student Council, J. Mowry and C. Zedaker; and L. Sidle and S. Baker. At the conclusion of the game, the Wrestlers had amassed $5884. to put them in first place. Student Council placed 2nd, and the 6th period Journalism I class placed third.

Wrestlers Amass $5884. In Monopoly Game

Hoping for a double, L. Sidle and S. Baker throw the gigantic dice.

Neil Simon's Autobiography "Brighton Beach" Premieres In The Spring

On May 9 and 10, Van Wert High School presented Neil Simon's "Brighton Beach," a memoir set in a splilt-level house in New York City. As an autobiography of Simon, the play depicted his life. Senior J. Mengerink portrayed Eugene, Simon's fictional counterpart. Eugene, a fifteen year old Jewish boy, was infatuated with sports, especially baseball; his main goal in life was to play with the New York Yankees. Throughout the play, ordinary family situations caused problems, but these were humorously resolved by the conclusion of the play.

Members of the cast included M. Sinning, Stanley; E. Moffitt, Jack; E. Pemberton, Blanche; A. Webster, Kate; C. Hoverman, Nora, and A. Kinkle, Laurie.

Concerns mounts as Blanche suffers an asthma attack.

As an aspiring actress, Nora pleads to quit high school.

Eugene quietly relates the past medical history of his family.

Stanley explains how he lost his job.

After a hard day at work, Stanley relaxes at home.

"Aloha Voyage" Lures Juniors And Seniors To Prom

Native Hawaiians greeted the prom-goers.

S. Collins shares a quiet moment with Tim.

The sophomore ticket-takers.

Seniors C. Zedaker and S. Stewart pose during prom.

Sophomores worked as casino employees.

M. Collins cleans up after the luau.

Seagoers danced amid a tropical paradise during the 1986 prom. The theme selected by the Junior Class, "Aloha Voyage" recreated a haven-like atmosphere, complete with native Hawaiians in grass skirts. In keeping with the theme, the food was served luau-style. During the evening, couples tried their luck at the games of chance offered in the casino, which was staged in the balcony; most people broke even, but a few fortunate couples received special prizes. The dance floor, however, was the center of activity for the night as couples in elegant attire glided to the music. To create a memorable evening, the band Quench provided the music.

157 Seniors Receive Diplomas On June 1, 1986

"It doesn't matter if we fail or succeed, we still have dignity."

The Mengerinks celebrate at their party.

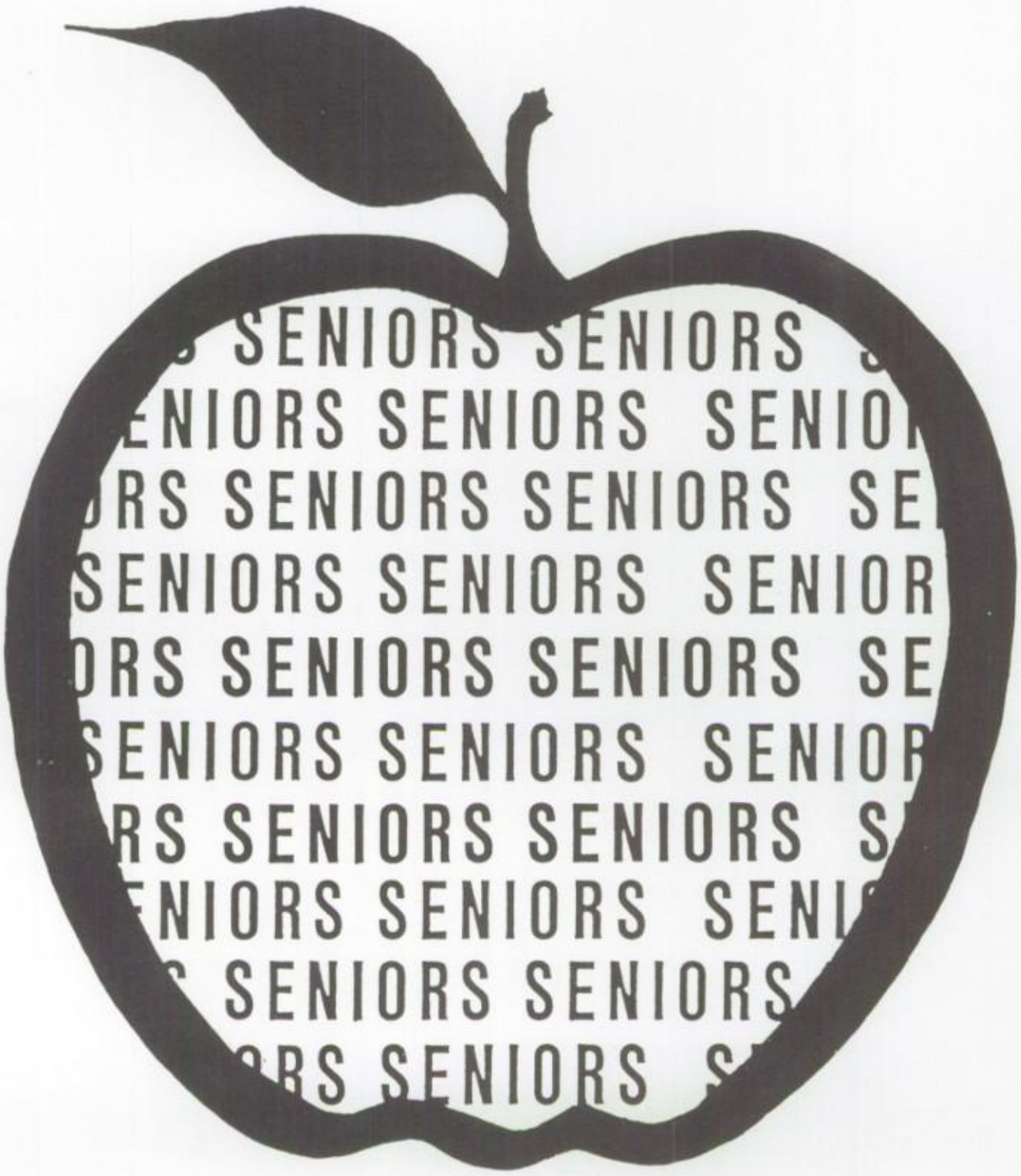
The seniors sing the Alma Mater for the last time.

B. Sullivan and K. Laukhuf share a final moment.

S. Upton discusses the levels of friendship.

Hats soar in celebration of completing high school.

157 seniors received diplomas on June 1, 1986 during Commencement exercises. Members of the Class of 86 proudly filed onto the field of Eggress Stadium amid sunshine and waving flags. Following the invocation, two seniors addressed their classmates for the final time. Using W. Houston's song "The Greatest Love" as a basis for her speech, B. Debbe talked about what they had gained during their years in school, including self dignity. D. Upton talked about friendship, what it was and what it will always be for the members of the class. The seniors then were awarded their signed diplomas by members of the Board of Education. Following the Alma Mater, they jubuliantly marched out of the stadium and gathered on the other side of the field in celebration.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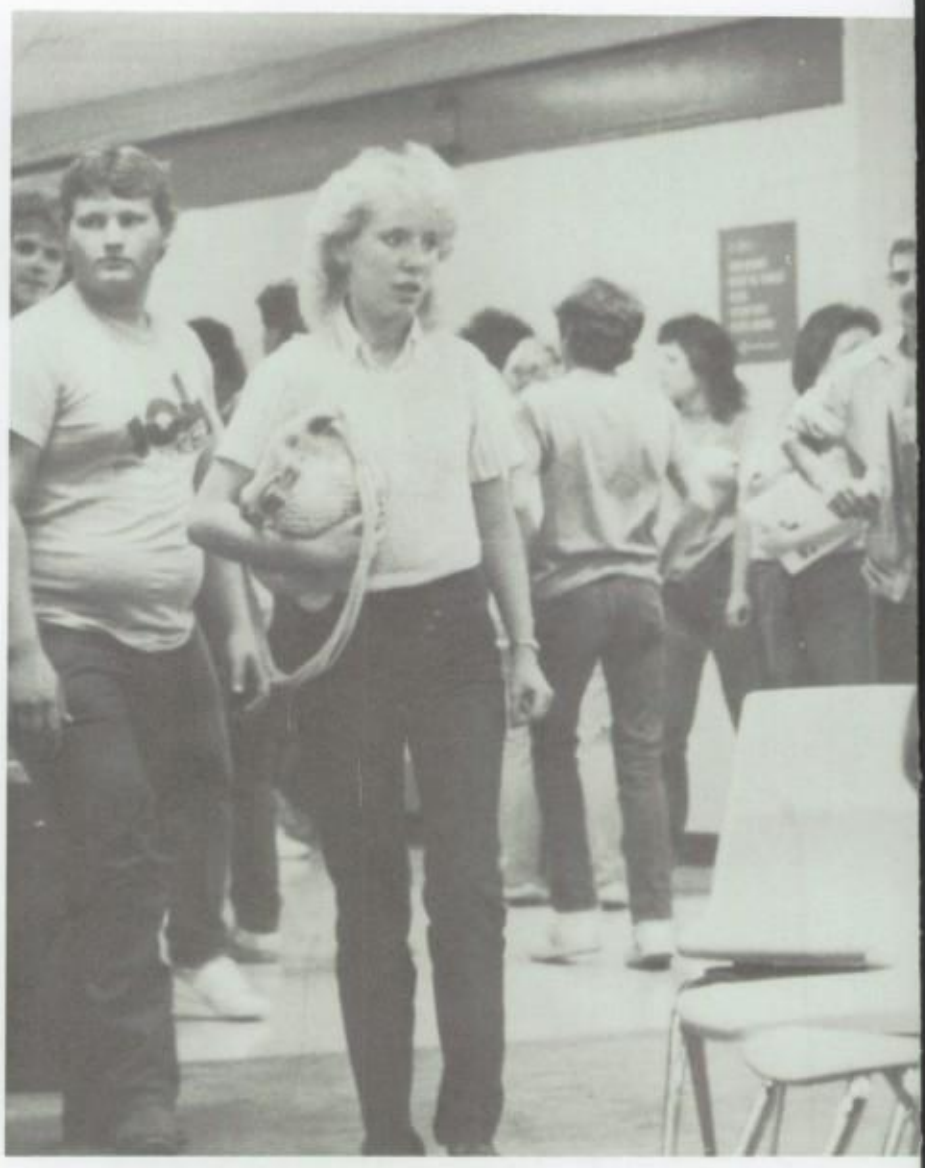
The Seniors:

Class Of 86

Angie Adams

Beth Agler



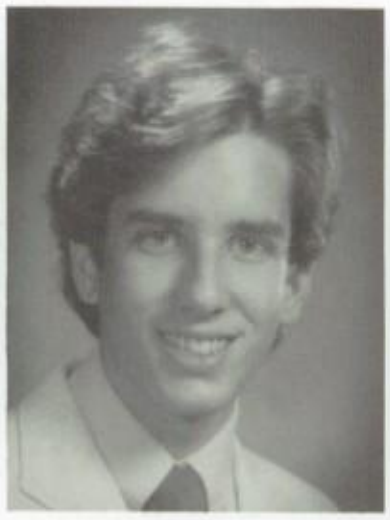
Janeen Allen

Renee Atwood

Vince Barnhart

Matt Barrientos

Chris Bates



Brian Blank

Wes Bolton

Lisa Bonifas

Steve Brown

Shawn Buettner

Ryan Burley

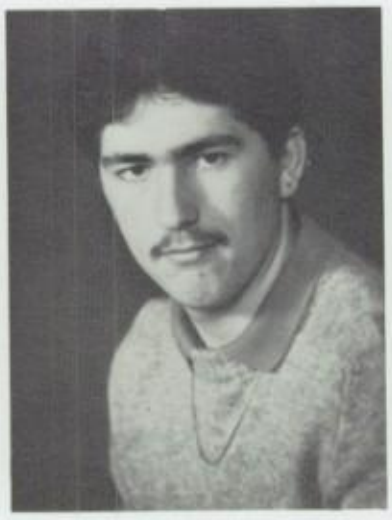
Michelle Canales

Rick Busch

Sara Carlton

Mike Carroll

Sam Carter



Tony Chesbro

Brian Clay

Sally Collins

Michelle Cook

Louis Crow

Rebecca Debbe

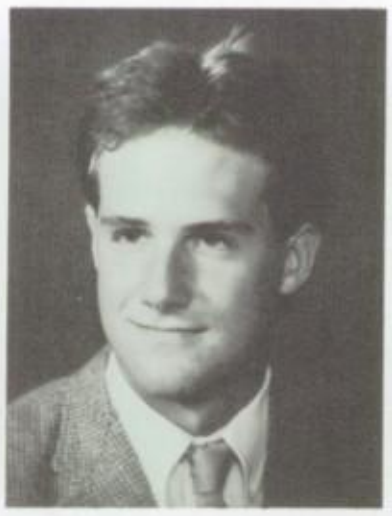
Johnna Detwiler

Paula Ditto

William Dohmen

Renee DuCheney

Matt Ehrsam



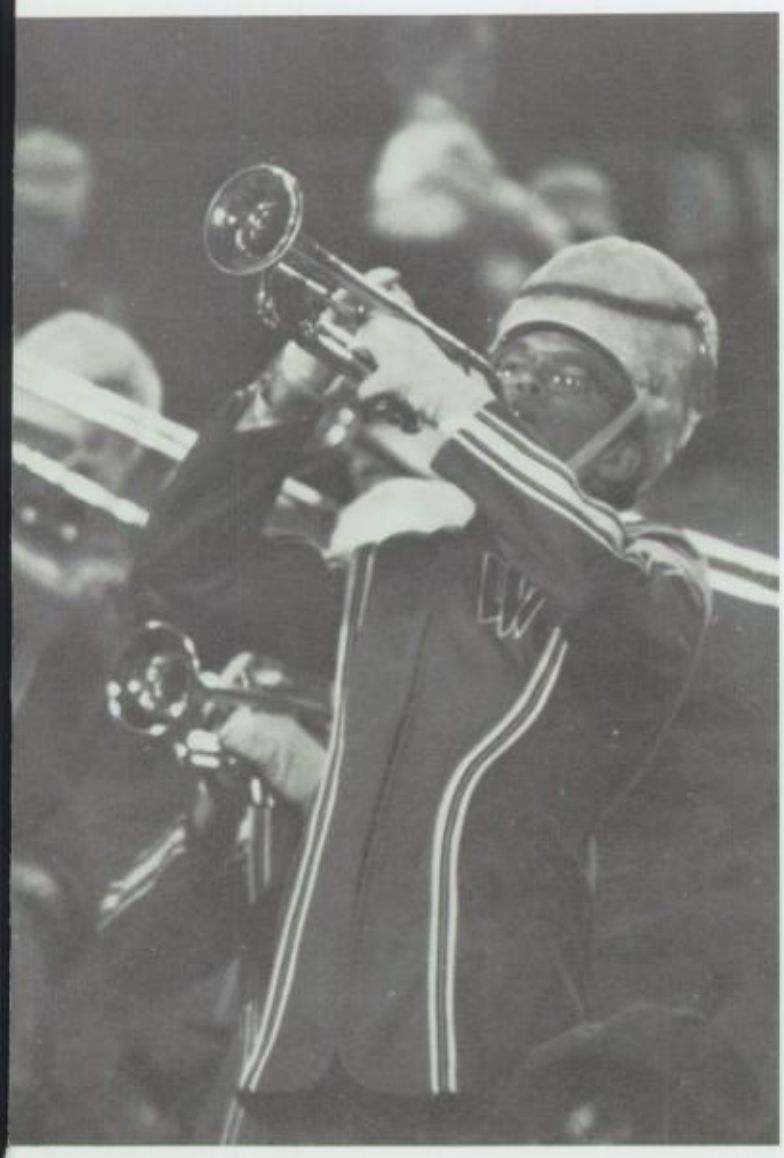
Rob Exline

Brent Fawcett

Lee Fiedler

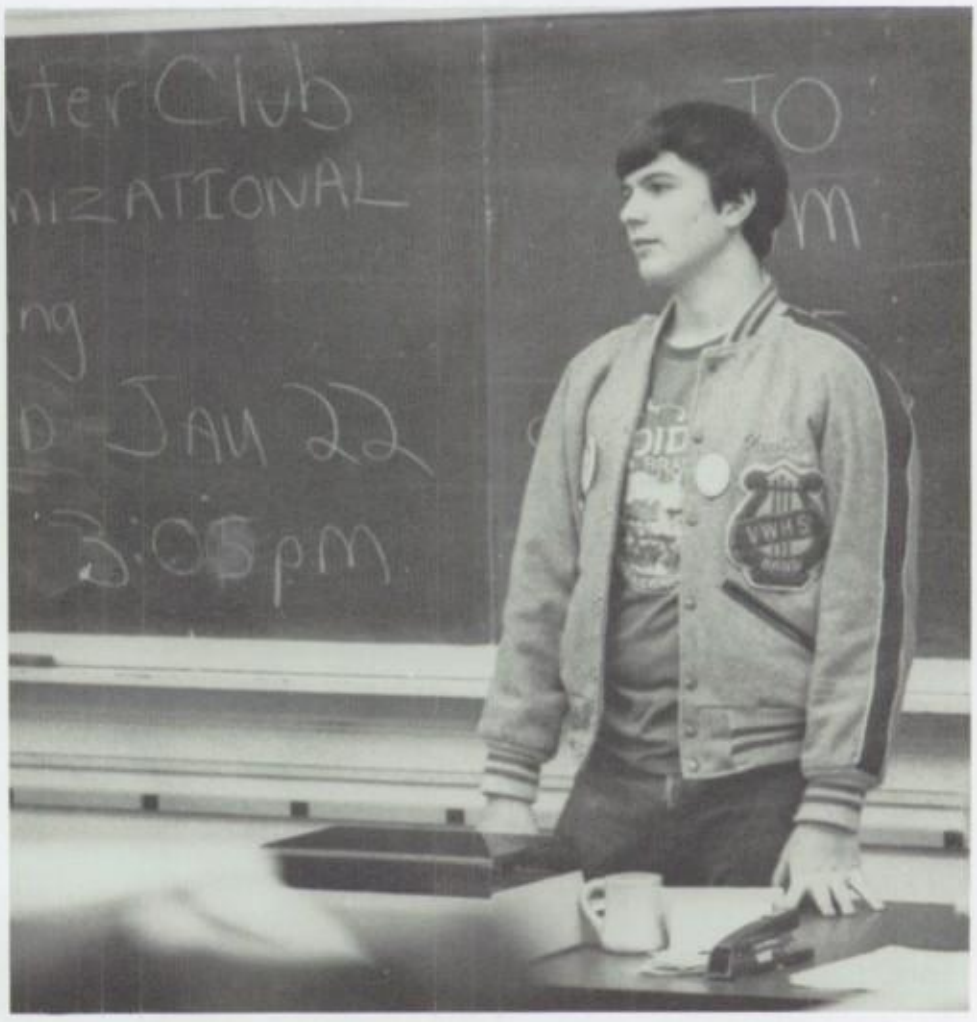
Ty Fiegel

Michelle Fields



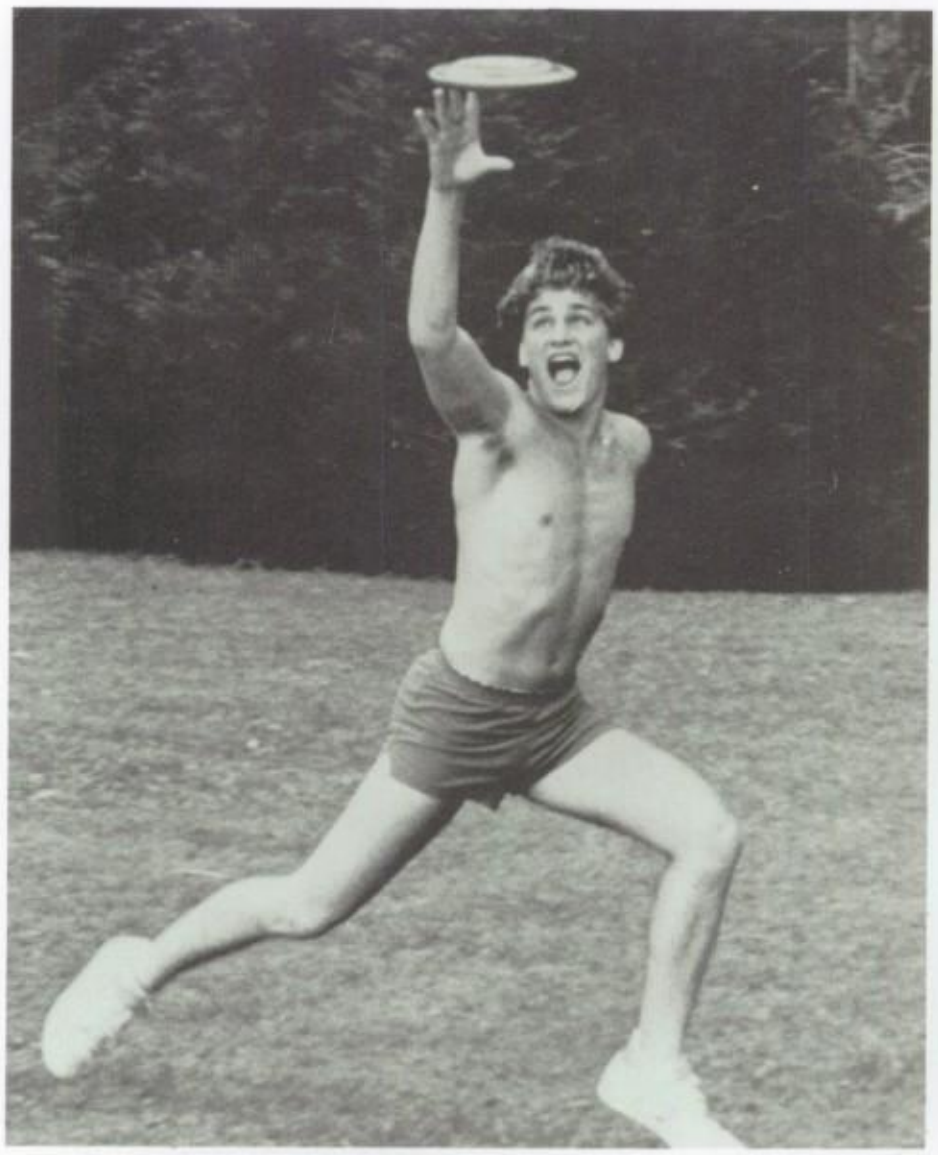
Robert Finger

Zach Fisk



Jane Fox

Alicia Foy



Jon Gerold

John Giessler

Cheri Goodwin

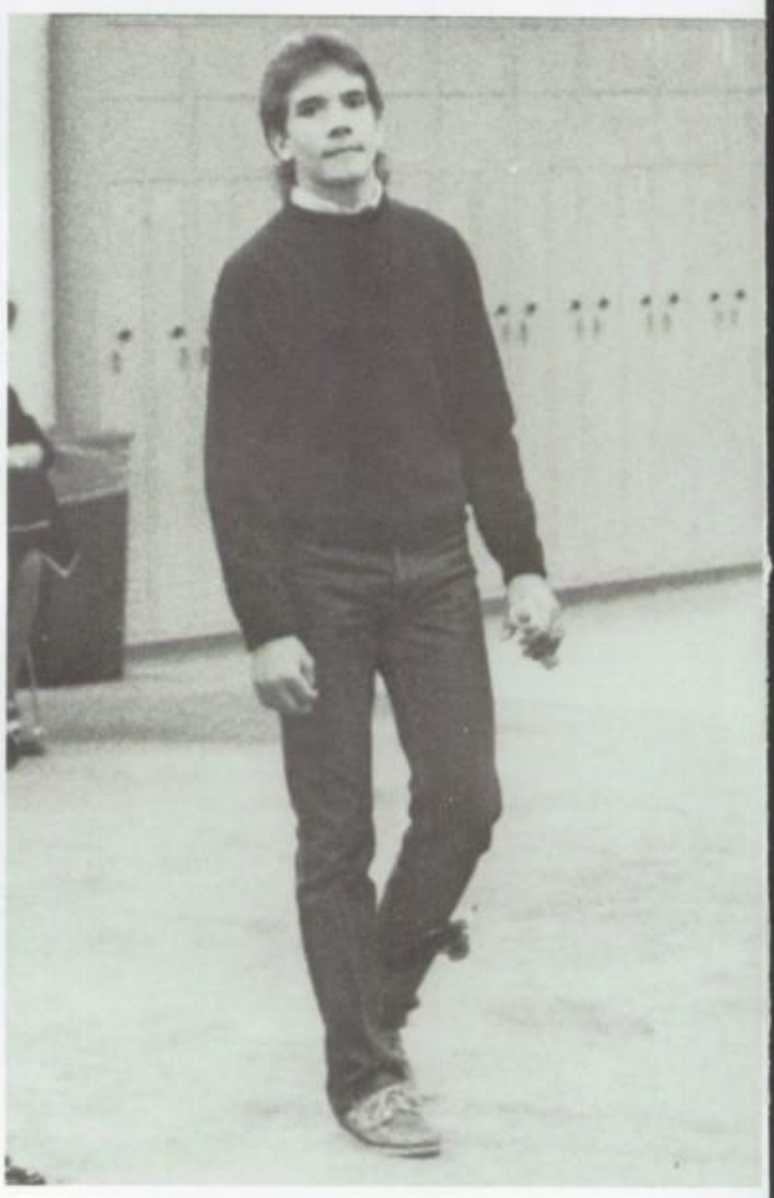
Kris Green

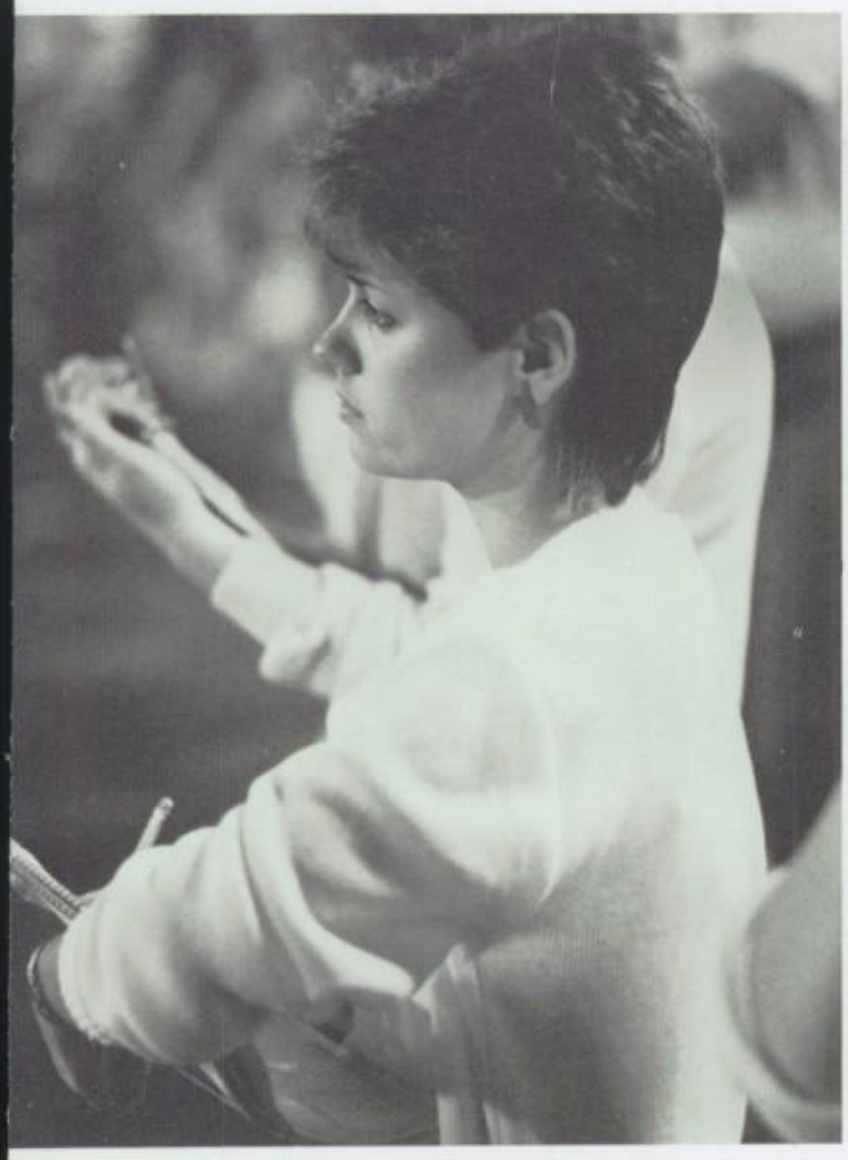
Chip Greene

Lisa Hamrick

Kim Hardmon

Nicole Harris





Chris Harvey

Beth Hayes

Chris Henkaline

Kevin Herminghuysen

Mike High

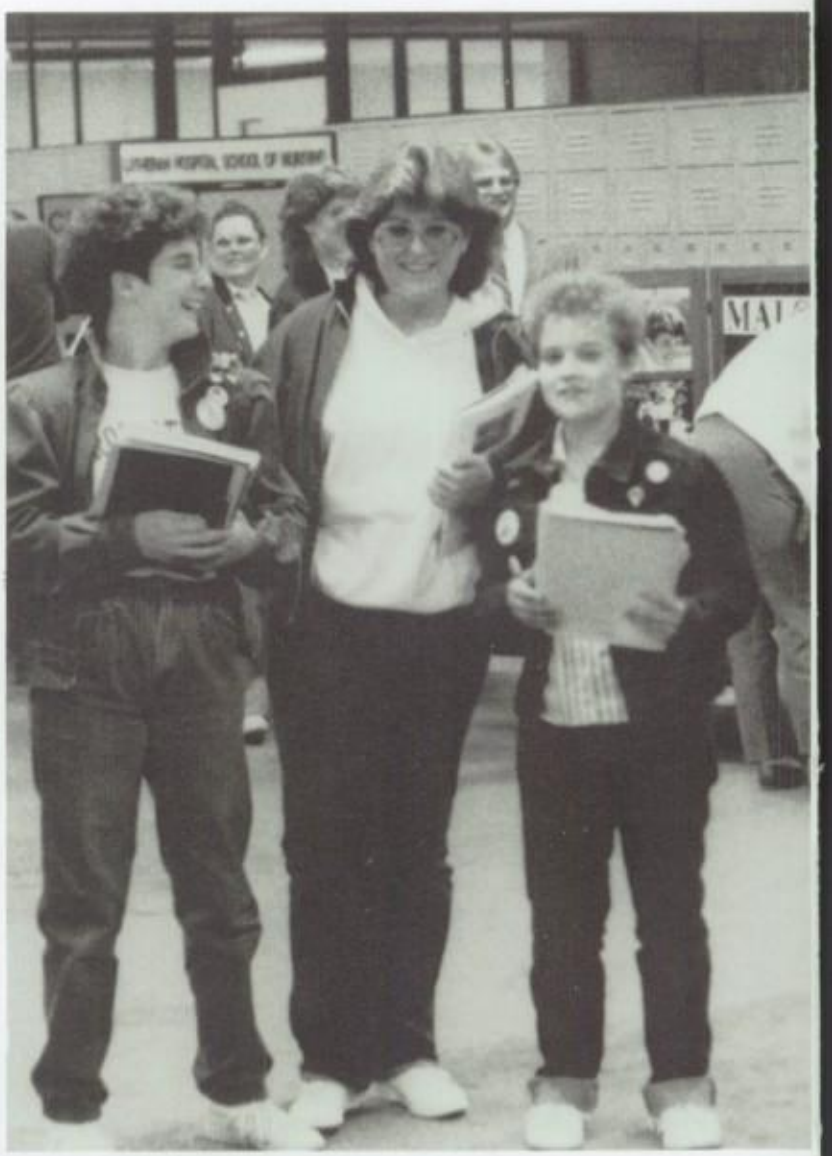
Brenda Hill

Denise Hofmann

Becky Hurless

Jody Jamieson

Edd Johns



Steve Johns

Diana Johnson

Libby Keirns

Jill Kennedy

Teresa Kerns

Dave Kindell

Mark Klausing

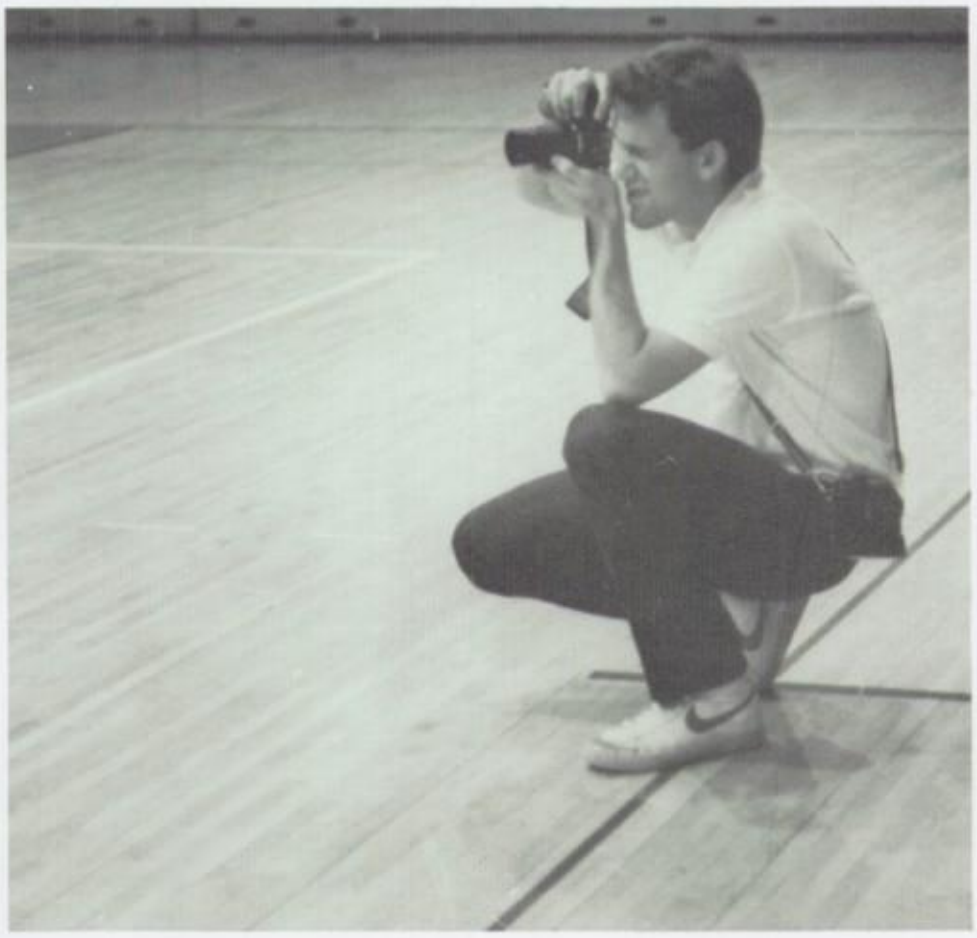
Dan Kline

Rod Klinger

Jeff Knittle

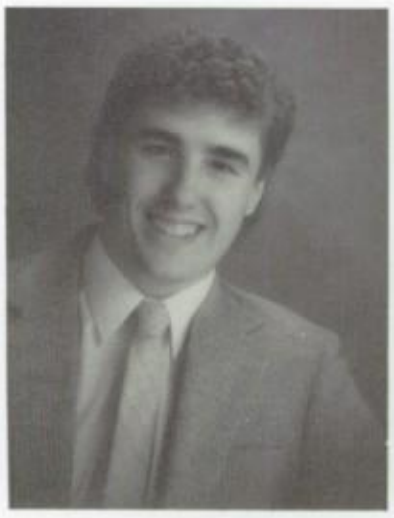
Kara Laukhuf

Eric Linser



Jana Linser

Pam Lowe

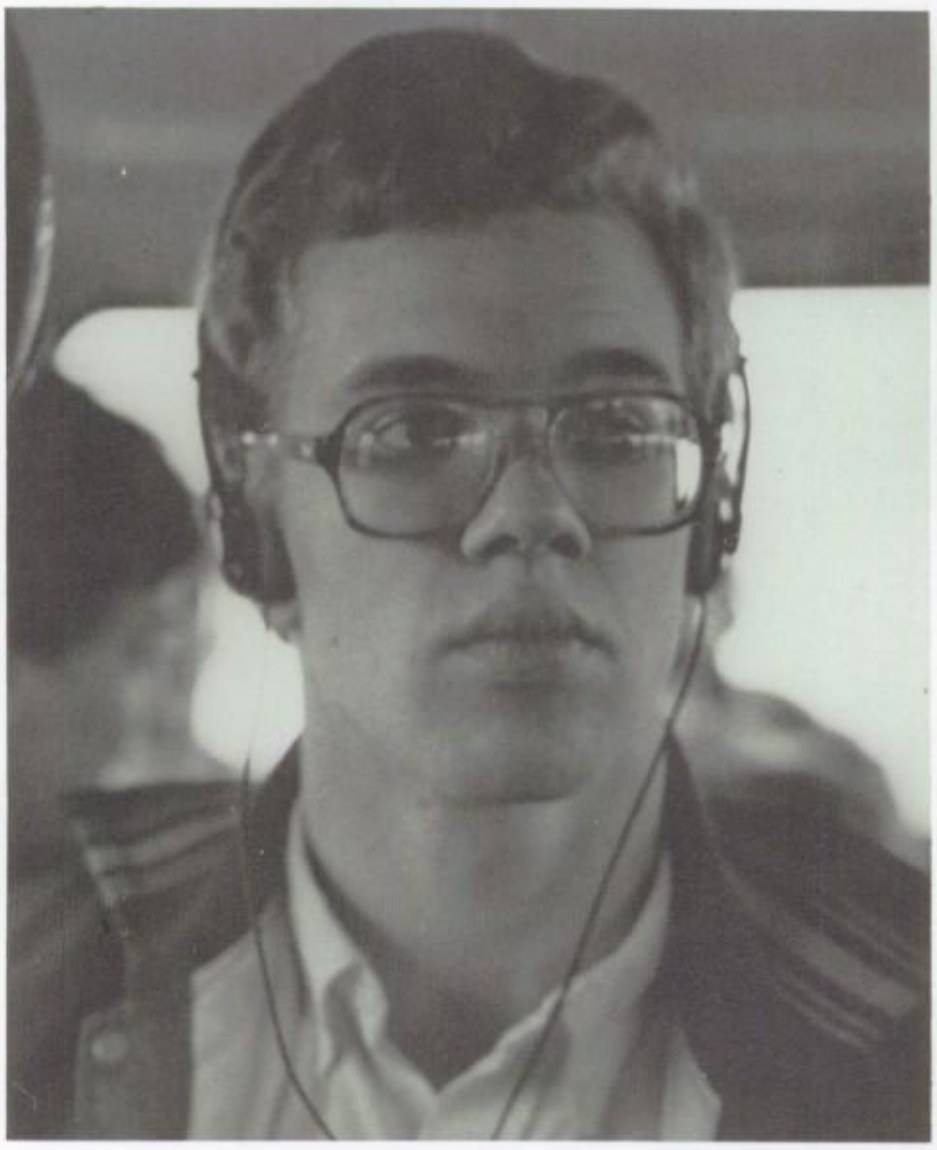


Mark Lupton

Ty McClain

John Mengerink

Karen Mengerink



Jeff Mitchell

Eric Moffitt

Julie Mohr

Duprie Moon

Renee Morton

Connie Mosier

Jennifer Mowry

Kelly Moynihan

Ron Myers

Ruth Myers

Tammi Nash

Sean Neate

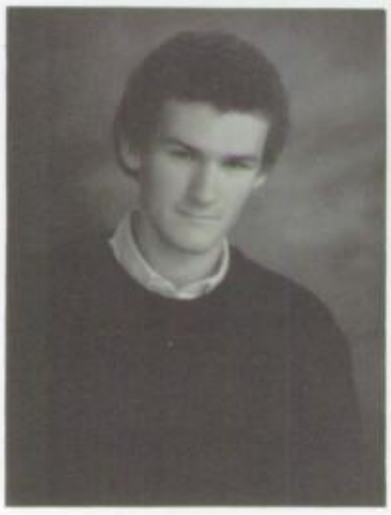
Jennifer Nieman

Valerie Niuman

Lori Oechsle

Connie Parkanzky

Charlotte Partin



Mark Price

Paula Pruden

Sonia Purmort

Trisha Putman

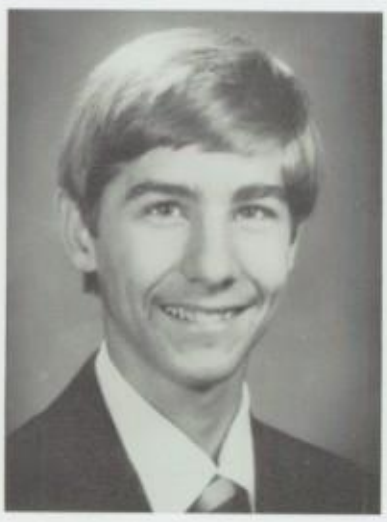
Mark Raudabaugh

Richale Reagan

Matt Rhoades

Meisa Ridenour

Henry Rife



Steve Rode

Dan Sampson

Valerie Schoonover

Rod Shultz

Laura Sidle

Julie Smith

Tessie Sneary

Brad Stetler

Stacey Stevens

Scott Stewart

Shelly Stricker

Betsy Sullivan

Penny Tanner

Holly Taylor

Betsy Thatcher

Lori Thatcher

Kellie Thompson

Teresa Tipsord

Tracey Trisel

Chris Turnwald

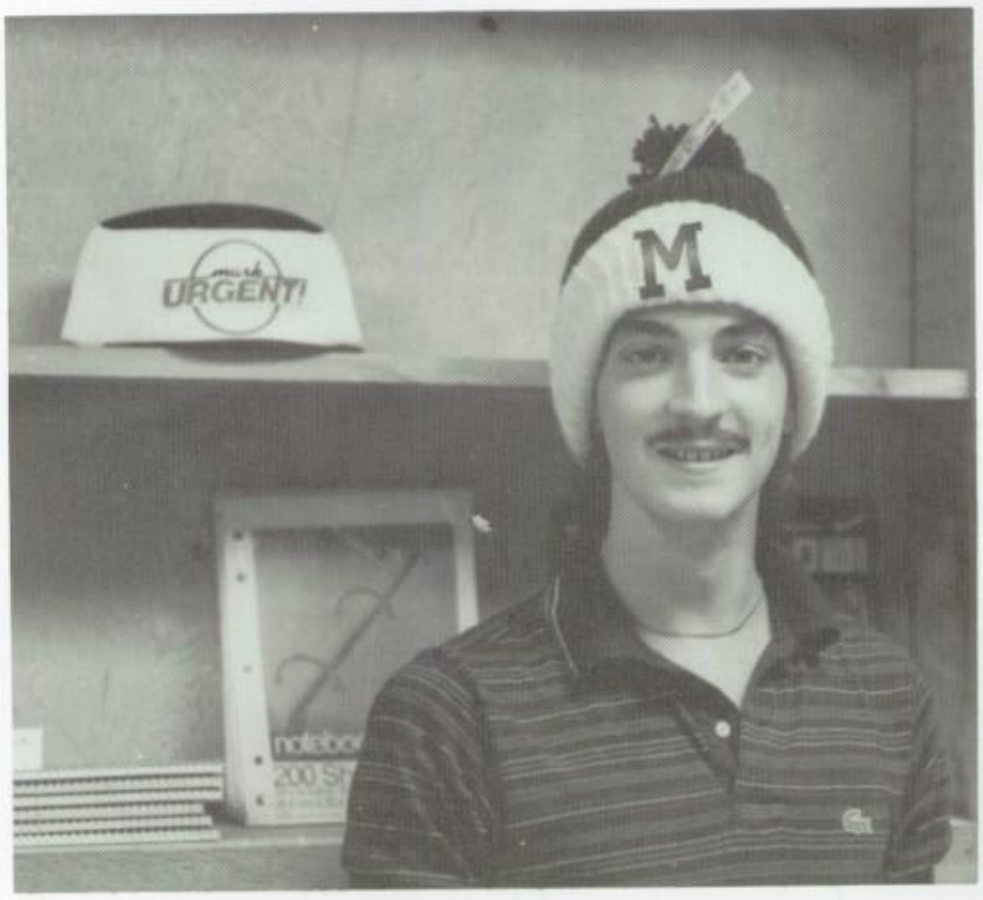
Steve Upton

David Voors

Melanie Waddle

Denise Wagonrod

Mark Waldron



Amy Webster

Scott Welker

Heather Wettig

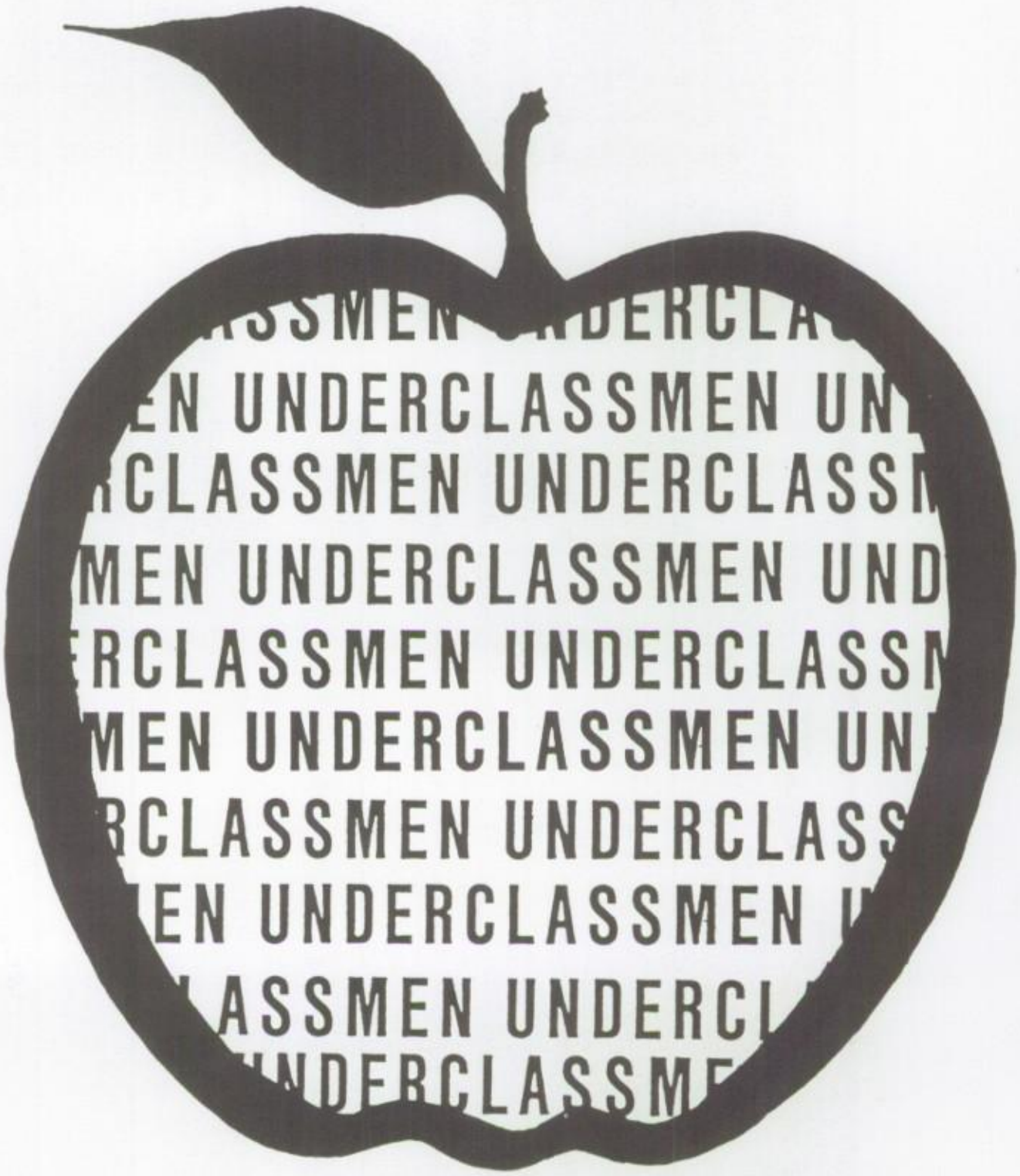
Melinda Whetstone

Mark Williams

Cami Zedaker

Seniors Without Pictures

Ainsworth, Bruce
Barnes, Michelle
Beyer, Tim
Burdg, J.D.
Burk, Shelly
Burkhead, Jessica
Carey, Paula
Coil, Tina
Crawford, Fitz
Dunbar, Wes
Duncan, Vicki
Fisher, Derrick
Fisher, Mark
Garwood, Tracy
Grimm, Rusty
Good, Lisa
Haynes, Allen
Mason, Nancy
McGilton, Karen
Montanaro, Steve
Nakayama, Yoshiko
Place, Kathy
Rodman, Tracey
Roth, Keith
Round, Krystyn
Schisler, Wendy
Sutton, Dan
Terhark, Kim
Thomas, Cheryl
Vibbert, Andrea H.
Washington, Dawn
Westfall, Richard
Wood, Lisa
Wood, Ray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Juniors

Class Of 1987

Adams, Dirk
Adamy, Andrea
Anderson, Julie
Anderson, Shelly
Arn, Kelly
Baker, Marc

Bakle, Curt
Barnhart, Troy
Barton, Barb

Beckner, Rick
Benschneider, Jeff
Beyer, Jenny

Beyer, Julie
Bolenbaugh, Dale
Bowersock, Angie
Breece, Debbie
Brehm, Mark
Brown, Allen

Burkheimer, Jim
Butler, John
Butler, Tammy
Buzard, Tom
Carroll, Bruce
Casarez, Laurie

Casebere, John
Clem, Stacy
Closson, Jordon
Coleman, Tonya
Coombs, Michelle
Creed, Vonda

Crosby, Chip
Cross, Gary
Culler, Amy
Danylchuck, Scott
DeLeon, Ernie
Densel, Mearl

Derr, Dawn
Dirham, Eric
Dohmen, Joe
Dowler, Kathy
Dull, Trevor
East, Mike

Eichler, Carol
Eikenbary, Melissa
Eikenbary, Thad

Emerick, Greg
Farmer, Donna
Fast, Jon

Felver, Neil
Finkhousen, Doug
Ford, Kelly

Foreman, Phil
Fox, Katie
Fry, Tricia

Gamble, Jamie
Gemmer, John
Gonzalez, Joann
Goudy, Tonya
Gribler, Brenda
Griffith, Scott
Grimm, Claudia

Grogg, Jody
Grossheim, Janet
Grot, Sandie

Growcock, Chris
Habegger, Terry
Haight, Tammy

Haines, Rick
Hamrick, Lisa
Hart, Judy

Harting, Dan
Hartman, Kelly
Heath, Aaron

Heiser, Scott
Hernandez, Mike
Hernandez, Teresa

Hetrick, Mark
Hines, Tina
Hoverman, Carrie

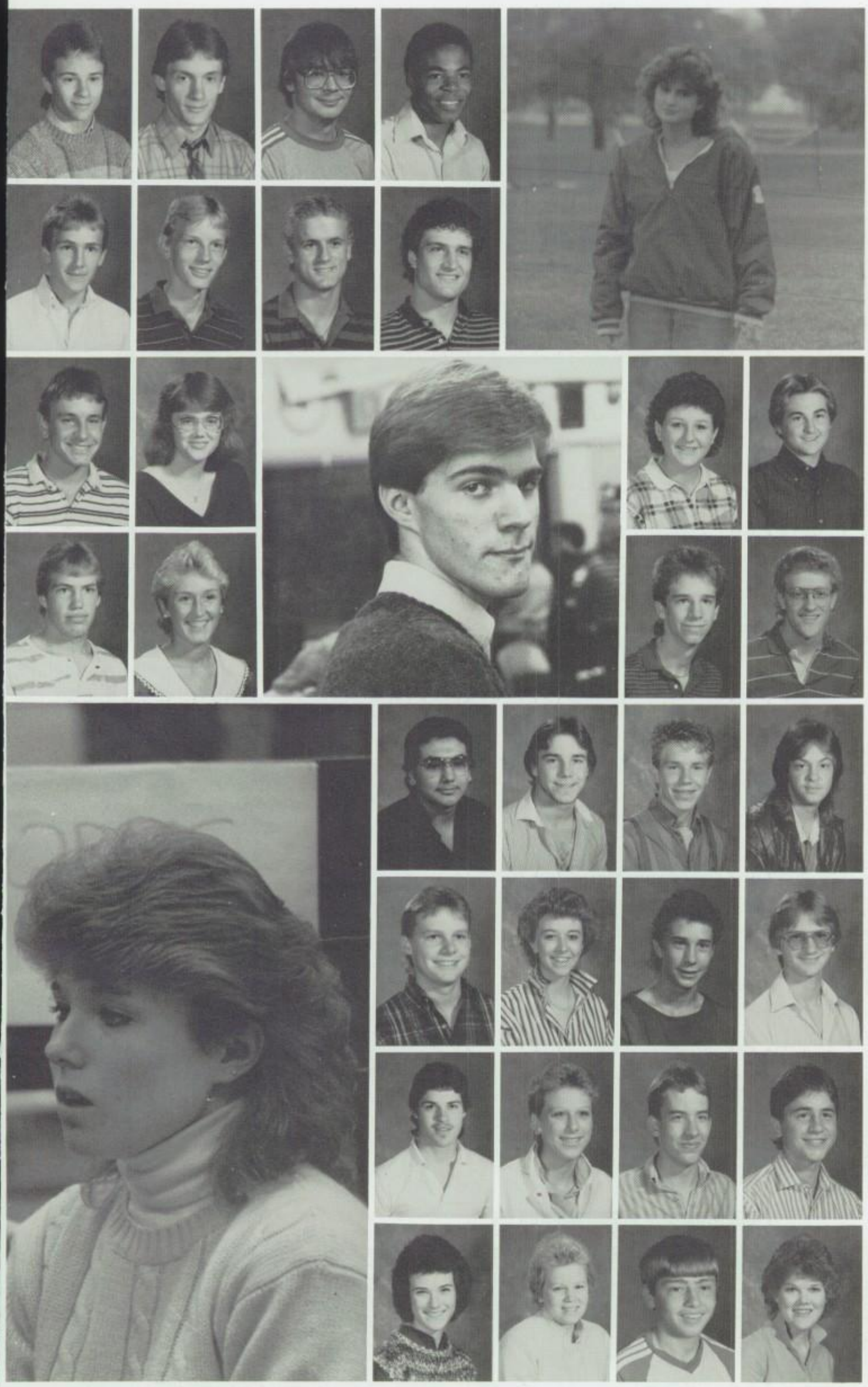
Ingman, Craig
Ingol, Larry
Jackson, Pat
Jeknavorian, Roy
Jewell, Clyde
Jones, Melissa
Kennedy, Mike

Kishler, Chris
Knittle, Travis
Kramer, Jetta
Kreischer, Teresa

Landis, Luke
Lassiter, Melissa
Lautzenheiser, Clint
Leatherman, Kurt

Lippi, Kathy
Loftis, Connie
Longstreth, Duane
Loughrie, Jim

Markins, Becky
Martin, Rita
May, Jeff
McClure, Kathy
McConahay, Kerry
McMichael, Tina
Mechling, Aaron



Mercer, Matt
Mergy, Rick
Miller, James
Milner, Corey

Minnich, Kirk
Monnig, Hans
Moonshower, Lance
Moorman, Joel

Moraw, Mike
Pemberton, Elizabeth
Pohlman, Tina
Prichard, Kent

Priest, Bob
Proffitt, Natalie
Riegel, Mike
Roberts, Jeff

Rodriguez, Efrain
Ross, Frank
Roth, Mike
Rowland, Greg

Runser, Charlie
Saam, Colleen
Saam, Jamie
Sanders, Doug

Saylor, Brad
Schaadt, Karen
Schaufelberger, Matt
Scheidt, Doug

Seplak, Cindy
Sherer, Tammy
Sherry, Mark
Shields, Cindy

Shobe, Wendy
Sink, Rod
Sites, Laura
Smith, Sherry
Spridgeon, Jeff
Springer, Tina
Steele, Jennifer

Stemen, Troy
Stepleton, Scot
Sterrett, Vicky
Stetler, Sondra

Stevens, Shari
Stevens, Vanessa
Stutz, Teresa
Temple, Christy

Temple, Todd
Thomas, Herman
Thompson, Chris
Tipsord, Jenny

Treece, Troy
Trejo, Tina
Turner, Treva
Wagonrod, Karen

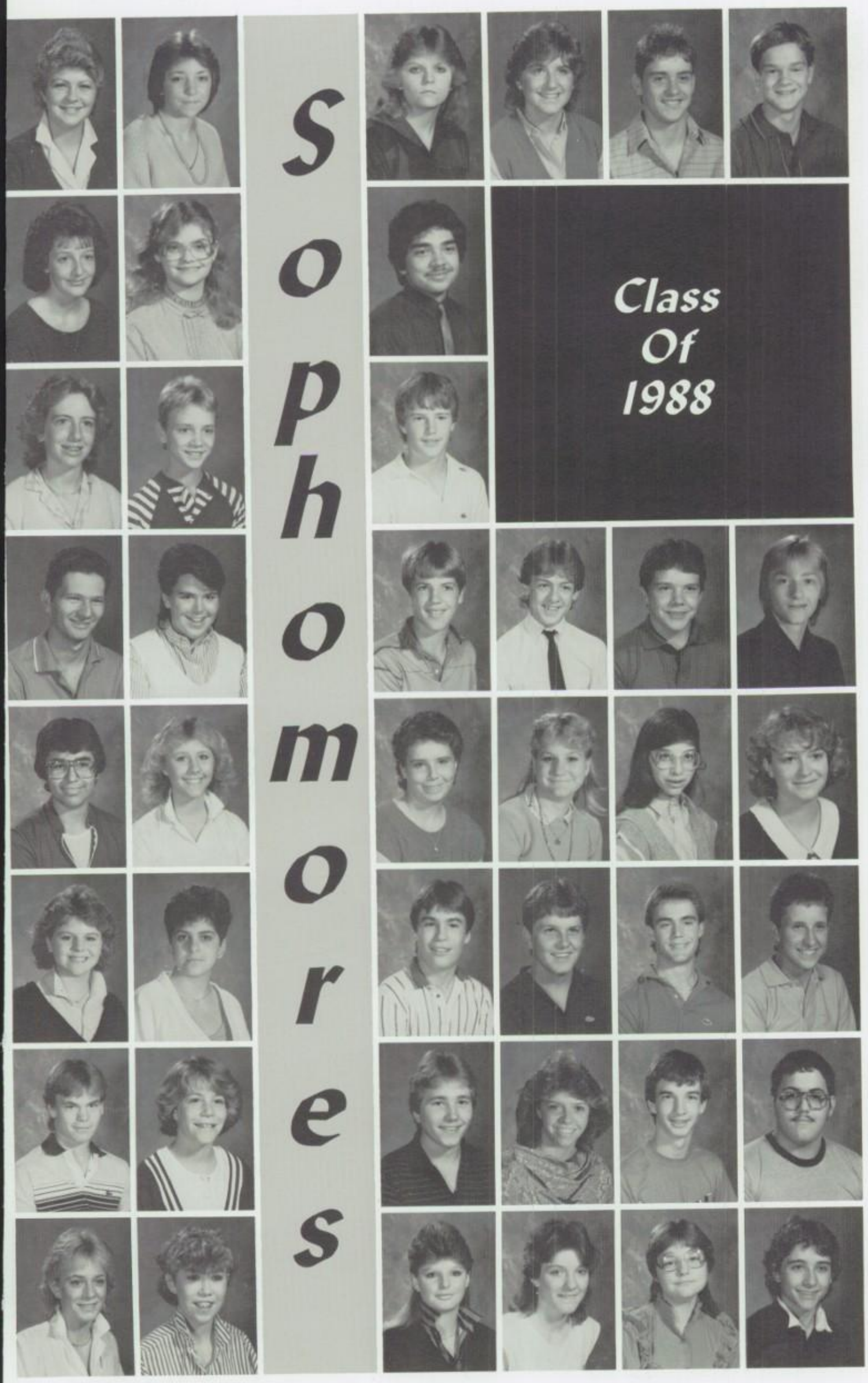
Wagonrod, Tammy
Waldron, Harry
Waldron, Kim
Waters, Linda

Weigle, Doug
Wettig, Carmel
Whitacre, Bob
Williamson, Linda

Witten, Jenny
Wolfe, Chris
Wollet, Missy
Wollet, Mike
Zabicki, Angie
Zabicki, Stephanie
Znoy, Robert

Sophomores

Class Of 1988



Agler, Amy
Agler, Vicky
Baer, Angie
Baer, Jayme
Baucom, Mike
Benschneider, Bill

Bigler, Jennifer
Blair, Shirley
Bobbitt, Jerry

Boley, Amy
Boley, Dale
Bonifas, Jeff

Branch, Dennis
Brandt, Kim
Brant, Dan
Brown, Arnie
Brown, Lance
Burk, Roy

Burk, Shane
Burnette, Jeannine
Busch, Jenny
Butler, Cerina
Canales, Tonia
Carlson, Anne

Carter, Karen
Chavarria, Julie
Chiles, Mike
Clay, Brent
Clouse, Troy
Coleman, Trevor

Collins, Aaron
Collins, Marcy
Cooper, Chris
Cox, Mindy
Custer, Robert

Cyr, Nicole
DeLong, Kim
Densel, Leah
Densel, Tina
Derr, Bonnie
Detwiler, Nick

DeWitt, Steve
Dineen, Colleen
Dirham, Jason
Dunham, Brock
Dunlap, Cindy
Dunmire, Steve
Dunn, Kathleen

Dunno, Chris
Evans, Corey
Evans, Mike

Eversole, Terry
Fast, David
Fawcett, Brad

Fenton, Angie
Fiegel, Dawn
Follas, Jodi
Ford, Teresa
Foreman, Angie
Freeman, Matt
Freeman, Pat

Gallaway, Nicki
Gardner, Keith
Gehres, Dan
Gerold, Jed

Giessler, Buffy
Giessler, Shelly
Grant, Christy
Greve, Brian

Gurganus, Renata
Hamilton, Debbie
Hammond, Tina
Haynes, David

Heffner, Scott
High, Kevin
Hines, LaDonna
Hofmann, Jon

Holtsberry, Mike
Ingol, Shawn
Johnson, Tammy
Kamph, Bill

Karalunas, Dan
Keipper, Ed
Kiracofe, Lolly
Kiracofe, Ronna

Klausing, Ed
Knight, Patricia
Kohart, Marcia
Lane, Deb

Langdon, Kris
Lautzenheiser, Amy
Lewis, Dave
Lewis, Jenny
Linton, Shelly
McCoy, Mary
McCracken, Annie

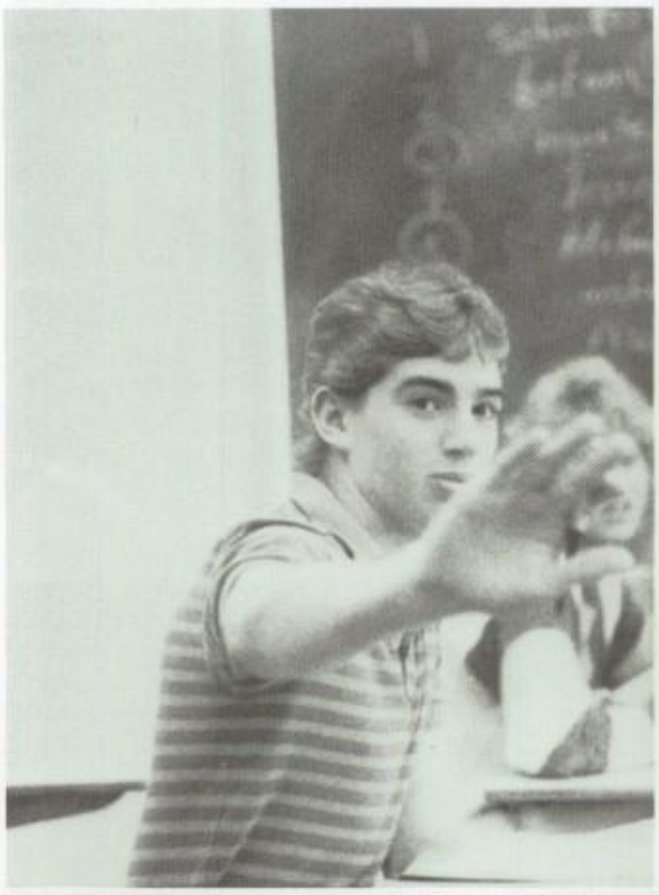
Mason, Don
Mengerink, Roger
Mengerink, Steve

Meyers, Michelle
Miller, Nikki
Miller, Shannon

Mills, Jennifer
Miracle, Jay
Mitchener, Derek

Moonshower, Sheri
Moonshower, Trent
Nash, Pam
Niuman, Missy
O'Daffer, Nancy
Osborn, Amy
Pak, Youn Sun

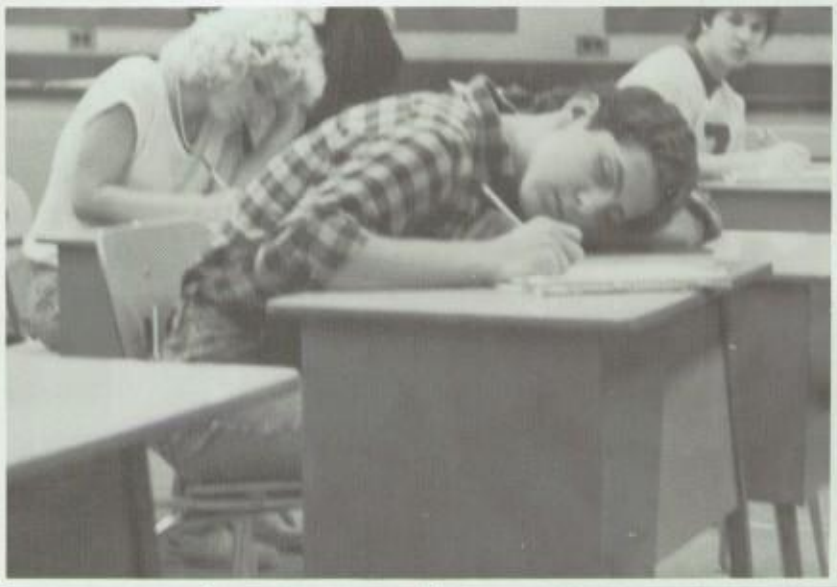
Parsons, Annette
Pierce, Shane
Pollock, Chuck
Potter, Mike



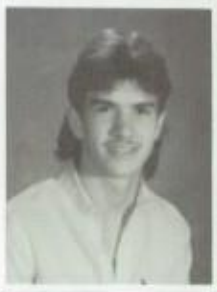
Pratt, Dan
Prichard, Jennifer
Prill, Angie
Pruden, Deana

Purmort, Marie
Putman, Stacia
Ramos, Phil
Reagan, Pam

Reichert, Mike
Riley, Matt
Rodgers, Erik



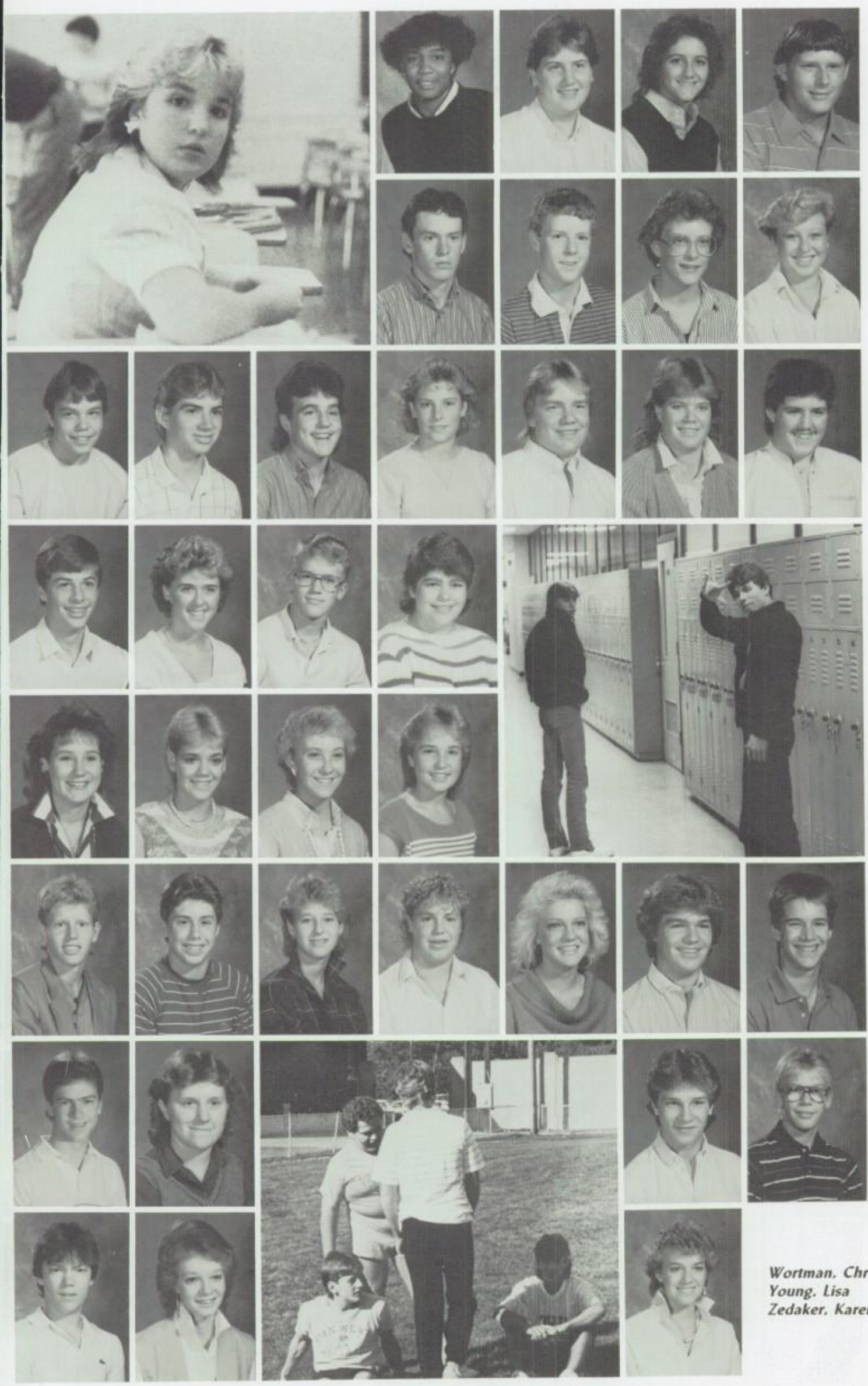
Roth, David
Schaberg, Mark
Schrader, Scot



See, Eric
Seplak, Keith
Shell, Doug
Sherburn, Gregg

Shock, Bambi
Shupe, John
Sidle, Greg
Sidle, Larry

Sidle, Trish
Silance, Kevin
Smith, Don
Smith, Kent



Smith, Tamika
Smith, Tina
Sneary, Sarah
Snyder, Mike

Spray, Brad
Stray, Brent
Stevens, Julie
Stewart, Nikki

Stittsworth, Jeff
Stricker, Jeff
Sully, Greg
Sunderland, Tina
Taylor, Don
Thatcher, Kristi
Thomasson, Chandler

Thompson, Jamie
Uncapher, Tracy
Upton, Dave
Vetter, Mary Beth

Wehage, Dawn
Wells, Chris
Werth, Tracey
Wettig, Amy

Whitcraft, Scott
Williams, Gary
Williman, Nikki
Wilson, Robert
Wise, Amber
Wise, Matt
Wise, Todd

Witherow, Bill
Wolford, Theresa
Wood, Doug
Woodruff, Mike

Wortman, Chris
Young, Lisa
Zedaker, Karen

Class Of 1989

Freshmen

Agler, Andy
Aguirre, Christie
Altherr, Karla
Amweg, Kristi
Arn, Kendra
Asbaugh, Michelle

Baer, Bob
Bagley, Mark
Bailey, Jennifer

Baker, Michelle
Baker, Steve
Barker, Chris

Barnes, Chris
Bates, Peter
Baxter, Carissa
Baxter, Matt
Bebout, Adam
Bebout, Trevor

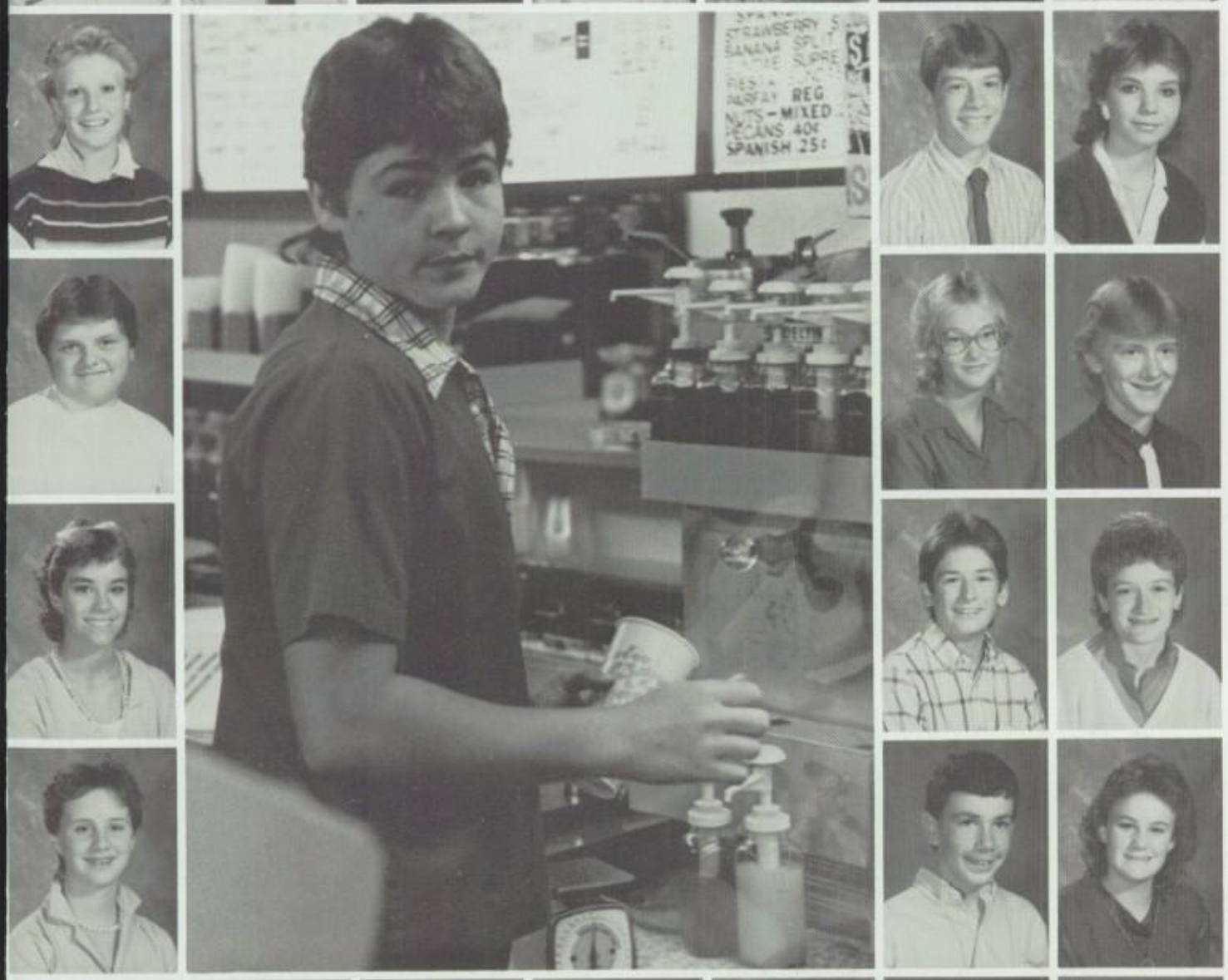
Beck, Brent
Black, Amee
Blakeley, Mike
Bogle, Bill
Boling, Cassy
Britton, Mark

Brown, Troy
Brubaker, Chad
Buckner, Shelia
Buechner, Jeremy
Burk, Shawn
Burkhead, Jason

Burkheimer, Brent
Butler, Andy
Carter, Gary
Casarez, Michael
Caywood, Lisa
Casebere, Jeneane

Cherukuri, Giri
Christlieb, Kim
Cloud, Trent
Coleman, Don
Conrad, Christy
Contreras, Robert

Coon, Jamie
Core, David
Covey, Chris
Cowan, Laura
Creed, Scott
Crow, Jennifer
Cryer, Lisa



Davis, Rhonda
DeCamp, Trent
Densel, Theresa

Derr, Bill
Didde, Amy
Dineen, Terry

Dix, Wendi
Drake, Chris
Dunlap, Jill

Dunlap, Wendy
Early, Shane
Ehrsam, Emily

Eikenbary, Eric
Eikenbary, Erin
Finger, Darci
Fisher, Leslie
Fisher, Susan
Fleming, Jerry
Fodrie, Renee

Forwerck, John
Foster, Shad
Fowler, Trisha

Foy, Melody
Francis, Andy
Francis, Kathy

Frantz, Andy
Frederick, Ryan

Geesey, Jeannette
Gemmer, Chris

Good, Aimee
Goodwin, David

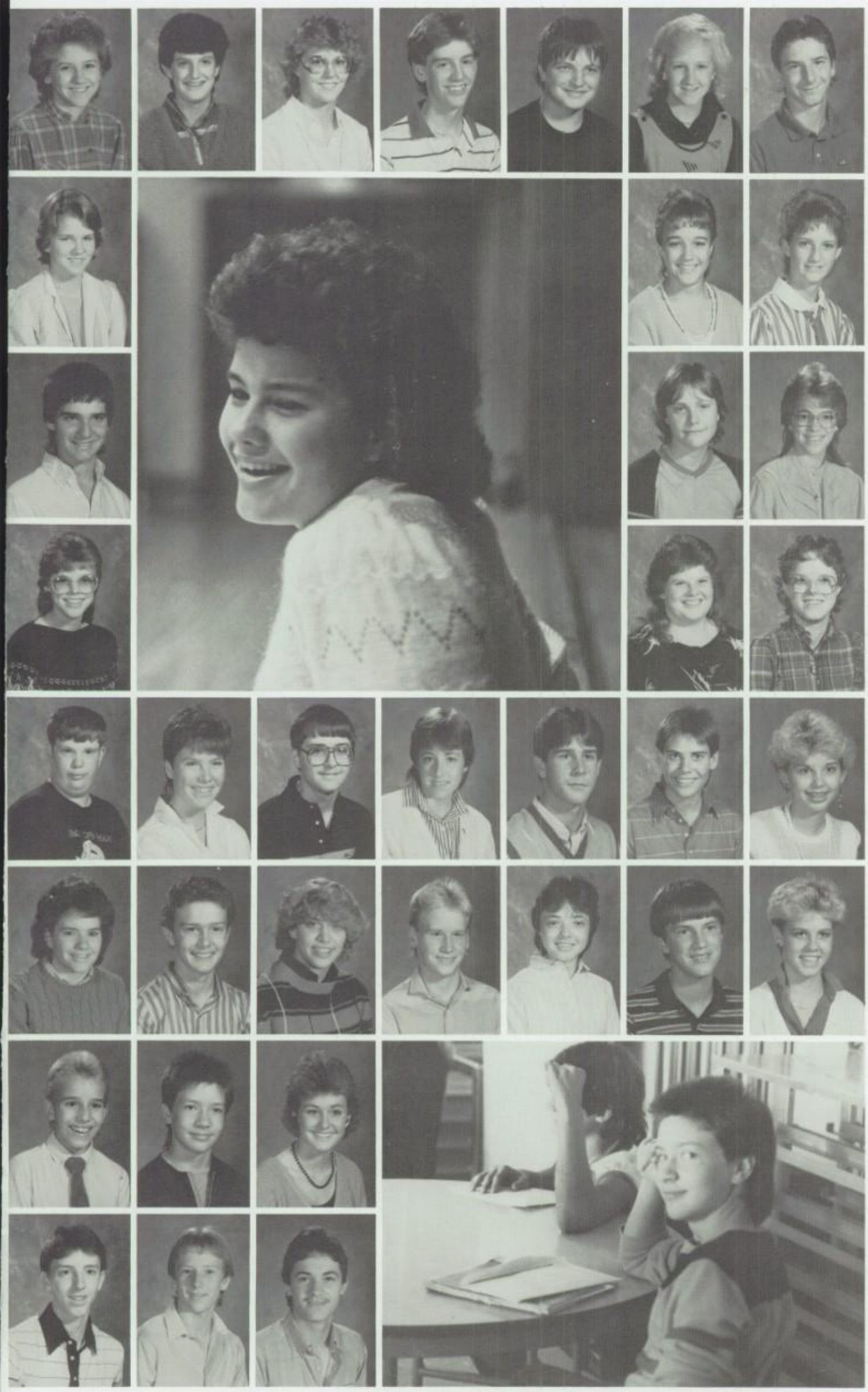
Greve, Scott
Grieshaber, Tommie
Grimm, T.J.
Grossheim, Richard
Grot, Robert
Gunnell, Tina
Habegger, Jamie

Haller, Cam
Harter, Chris
Harvey, Diane
Hauter, Tony
Hayes, Amber
Heffner, Tony
Heiser, Jamie

Herminghuysen, Kris
Hernandez, Jamie

Hill, David
Hirschy, Amy

Hoersten, Jim
Holtsberry, Ed
Iler, Kent
Ireland, Sean
Jemison, Atra
Jeknavorian, Katrina
Jewell, Cindy



Kennedy, Kim
Kinkle, Amy
Kleman, Julie
Klewer, Mark
Kline, Paul
Klosterman, Melissa
Kovar, Rob

Kramer, Ginger
Kuck, Kris
Laisure, Missy

Landis, Matt
Landis, Steve
Layton, Jonie

Layton, Lynn
Lewis, Lynette
Lowe, Donna

Matthews, Eric
McCoy, Kelly
McCray, Greg
McEntire, Kristen
McGough, Rod
Mefferd, Dave
Miller, Amy

Miller, Amy
Miller, Bryan
Miller, Danielle
Miller, Doug
Miller, Lauri
Minnig, Mike
Moffitt, Danielle

Montanaro, Nick
Moon, Hewart
Moraw, Janet

Mosier, Greg
Murphy, Monroe
Neate, Shane

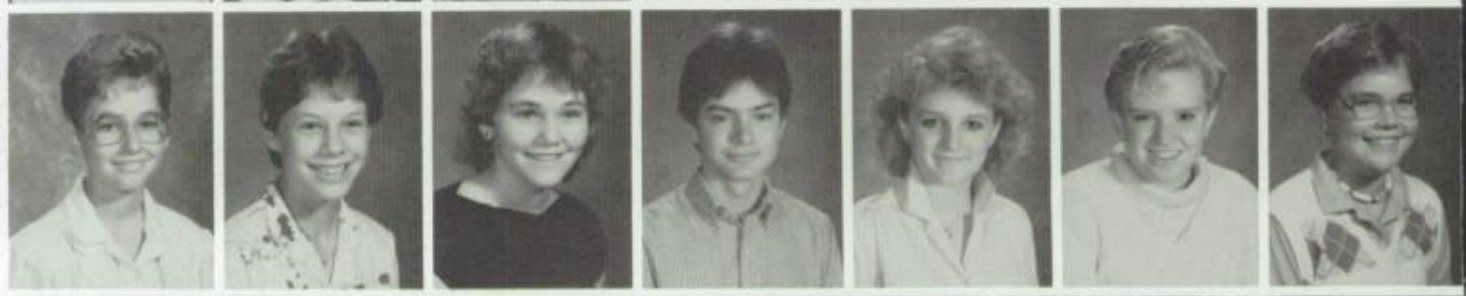
Paige, Mike
Pak, HoSun
Parsons, Rod
Place, Joe
Prill, Susan
Pruden, Vivian
Pugh, Tracey

Ramos, Stuart
Raver, Nola

Ravipati, Anu
Rawlins, Cindy

Ray, Jill
Reitzel, Eric
Renner, Braydon
Rhoades, Chad
Riggenbach, Tom
Riley, Aaron
Riley, Adam

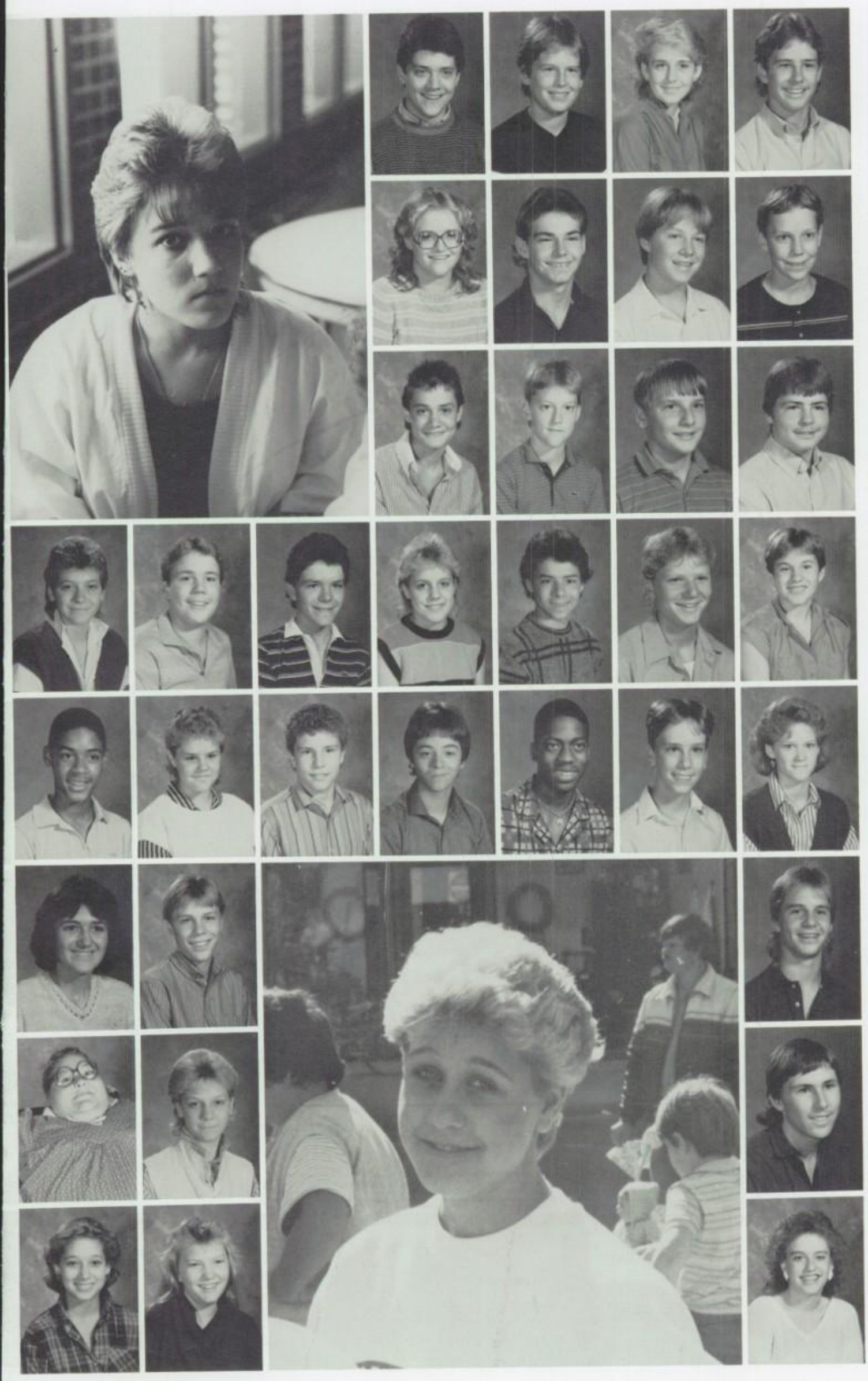
Robbins, Angie
Robeson, Nicole
Round, Gail
Roush, Shawn
Ruckless, Dondi
Ruttan, Suzi
Ryan, Laura



Saam, Jason
Sargent, Kathy

Schaberg, Debbie
Scheidt, John

Schisler, Laura
Scott, Kristina
Secaur, Jennifer
Sheets, Lori
Shepard, Elizabeth
Sink, Jennifer
Sinning, Matt



Sites, Rob
Sites, Terry
Slater, Christi
Smith, J.D.

Spridgeon, Susan
Springer, Scott
Stevens, Greg
Straley, Neil

Stutz, Curtis
Sullivan, Geoff
Sutton, Bryce
Temple, Trent

Terhark, Dawn
Tomlinson, Jeff
Tribolet, Jason
Trisel, Teresa
Tuckerman, Chad
Turnwald, Tom
Waldron, Stephanie

Washington, Richard
Webster, Kelly
Whitcraft, Jason
Wilkin, Andy
Williams, Karl
Williamson, Dan
Williman, Heather

Wilson, Tammy
Wise, Bob
Wise, Shawn

Wood, Patty
Wood, Teresa
Worline, Rod

Worthington, Jill
Wortman, Tricia
Youtsey, Michelle

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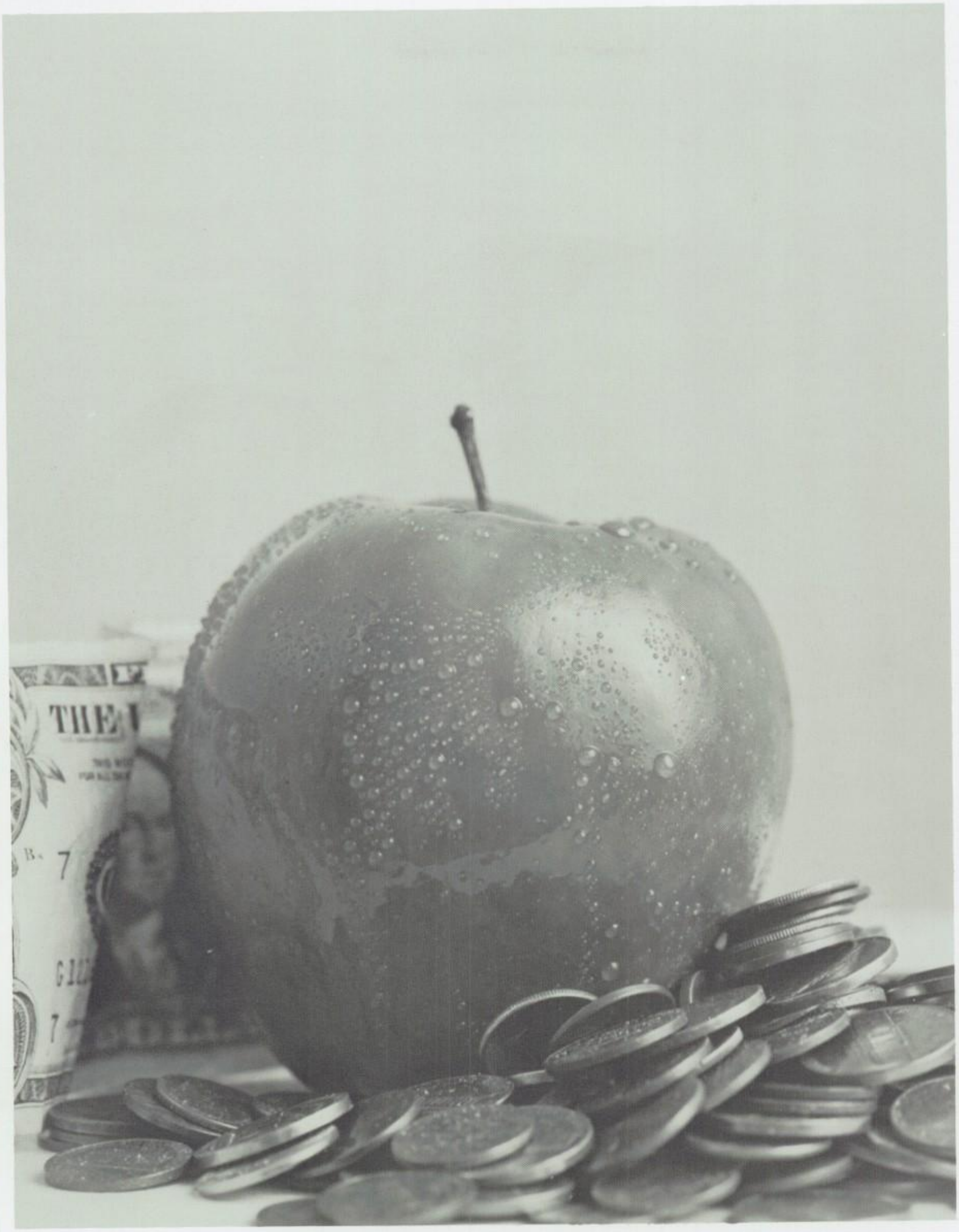
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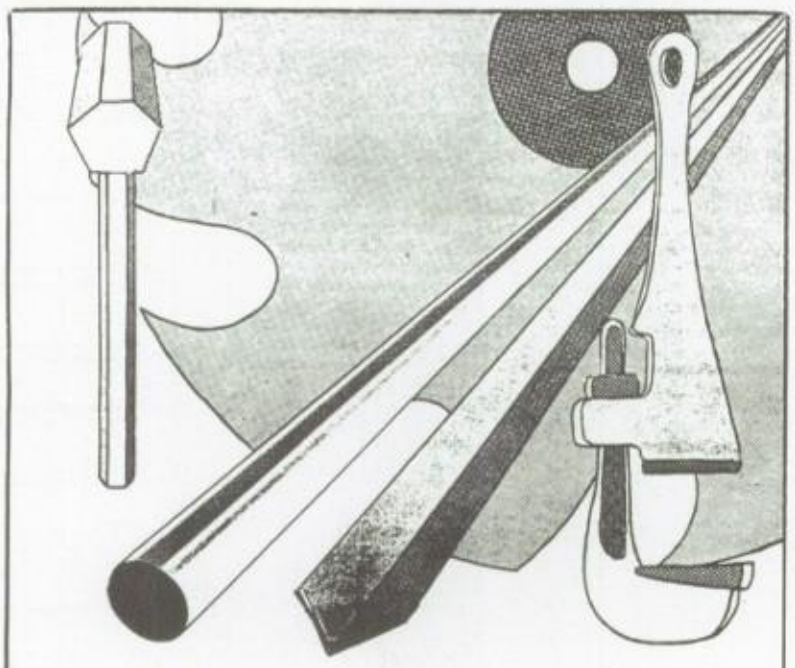

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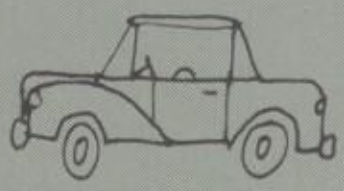

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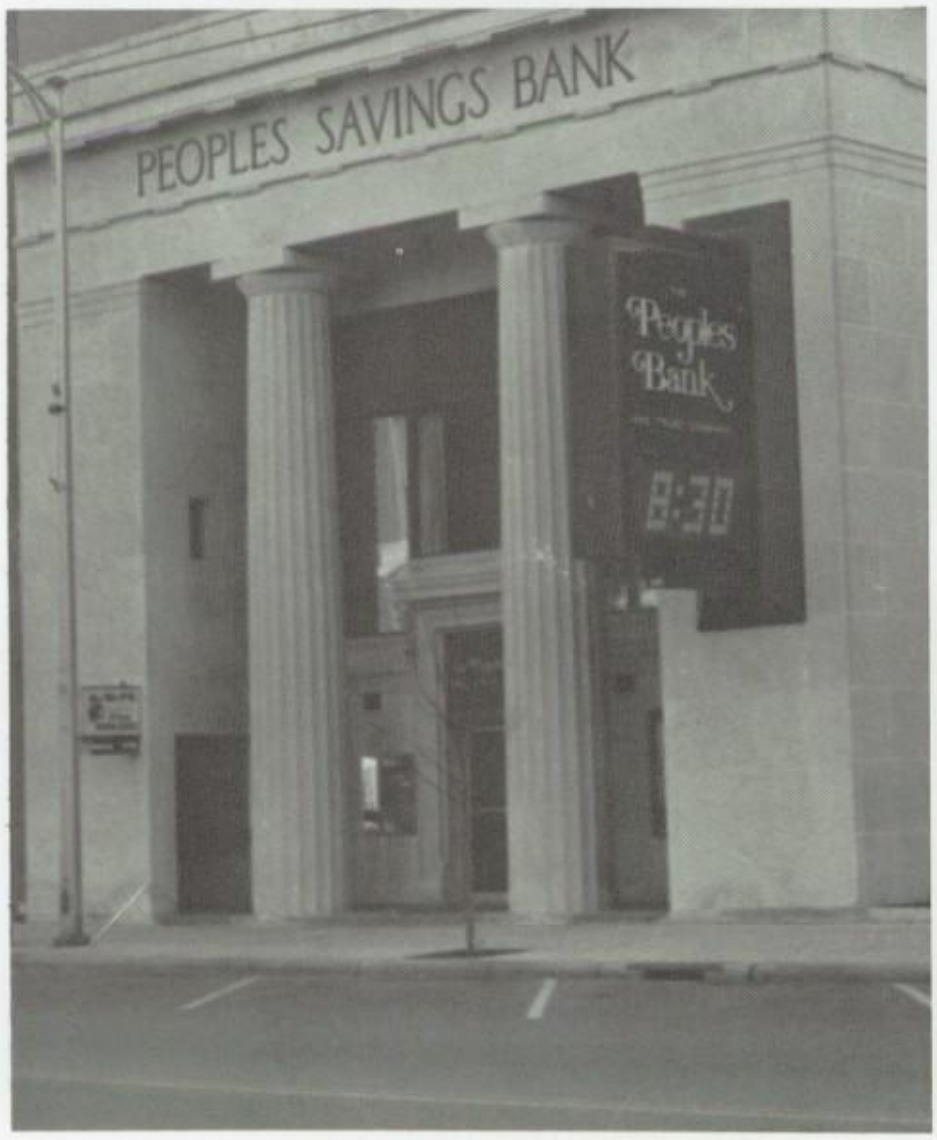

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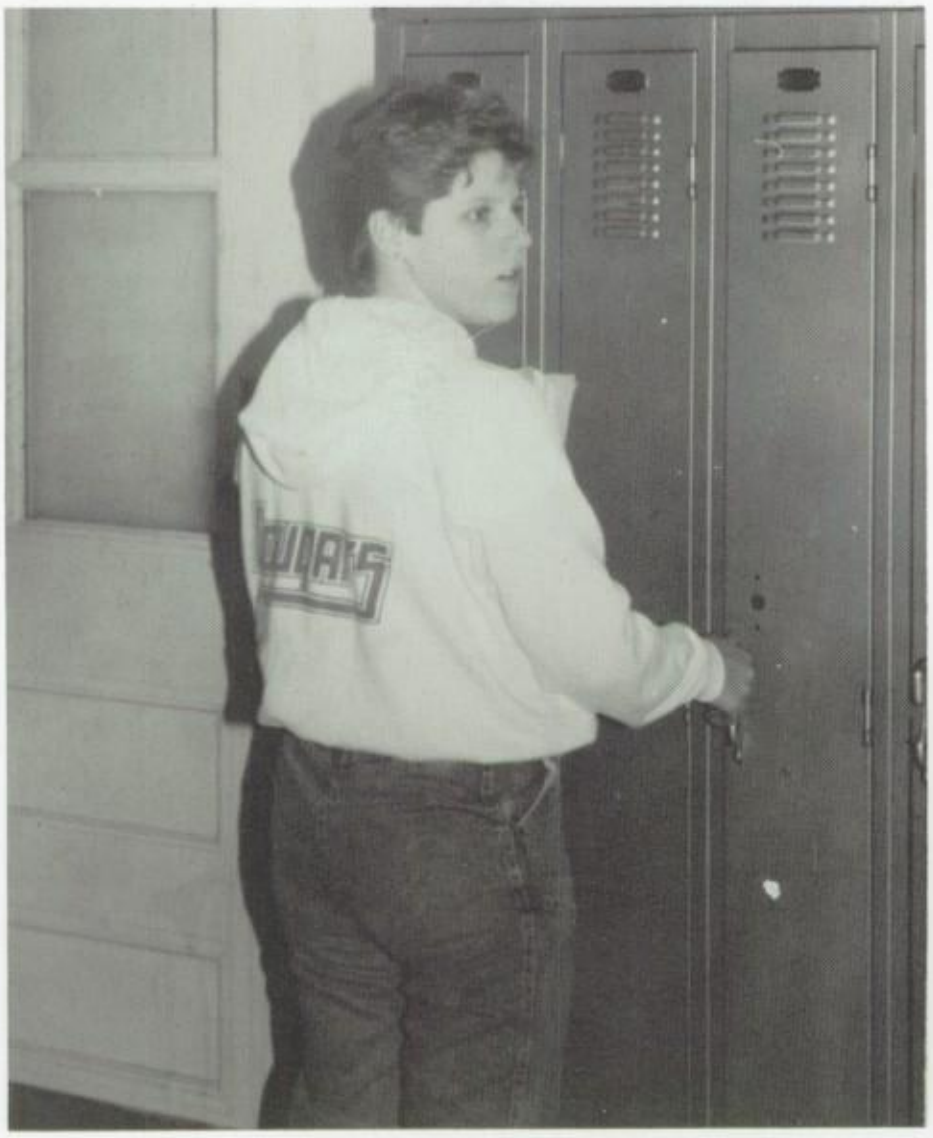

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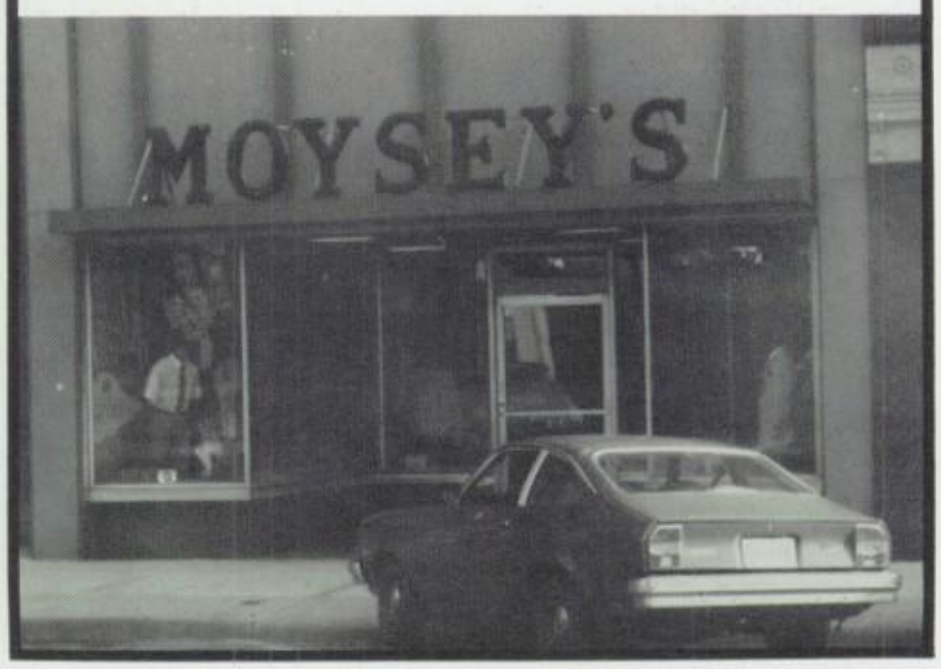

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Editors' Corner

The 1986 school year quickly passed by us, but not without a time of growth and change in our outlook on life. Participating in the activities at Van Wert High School has expanded our horizons and given us the unique opportunity to observe every moment. Special individuals assisted in the attainment of the Excalibur's goal. Our deepest appreciation goes out to Brad Affolder for his immeasurable contribution and to the faithful Midnight Six, especially Miss Clark. The friendships and memories will last a lifetime and will be treasured always since they can never be relieved. Congratulations and best wishes to the 1986 graduating class of V.W.H.S.

Karen and Edd

Christy,
To a great
last year dating
buddy. Hope you do
good in Spanish. That
is what your taking. Good
Luck in it. Don't forget July
4th 1986. Don't forget me + i
won't you forget me + i
your friend Love ya
always
'89
Ace
(Cass)

Christy,
To a real sweet
friend I got to in
B-ball. Hope we see many
more seasons together. Good
luck in everything that come
your way.
"89"
Friends forever,
Jenny

Christy,
To a real sweet
nice unreal (really)
friend. Lets do lunch!
Babe, or get wasted.
-89-
Band Rats
never die!
P.S.
Stay away from that damn Baxter girl.
Love Ya
CMD

Christy,
To a wild-n-crazy sweetheart
I met a while back. We've had
some great times together, and hopefully
we'll have many more. Stay crazy!
Love ya,
F/F
Amber

Ch
Kristy, (sorry)
I can't believe it's
been 3 and ½ yrs
~~we~~ we've known
eachother. Time
flies. Good luck
with everything.
Not just the guys
Stay cool & crisp
(Ha! Ha!)
See ya 'Round
&
Live Always
"Juls"

Christy,
To a good friend who
is fun to pick on, who also
has very nice eyes. Remember
If you ever hit me (you know
where) again, You will be sorry.
Good Luck throughout high school
& everything else you do.
Love,
Troy "88"

CHRISTY,

TO A REALLY GOOD FRIEND THAT HAS NICE EYES! YOU REALLY KNOW HOW TO HAVE A GOOD TIME LIKE WHEN BRAD & I TICKLED YOU ON THE BACK OF CHANDLERS CAR. HOPE YOU HAVE A BOTTLE NEXT TIME BECAUSE WE WILL MAKE SO IN YOUR PANTS IF YOU DON'T. I WISH YOU ALL THE LUCK IN THE REST OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL YEARS.

LOVE ALWAYS

DAN GEHRES

CHRISTY

TO A REAL COOL PERSON WHAT I THINK WHAT IS ALRIGHT. MOST WE CAN BE FRIENDS FOR A LONG TIME. STAY OUT OF TROUBLE! KEEP HEAD BANGIN'

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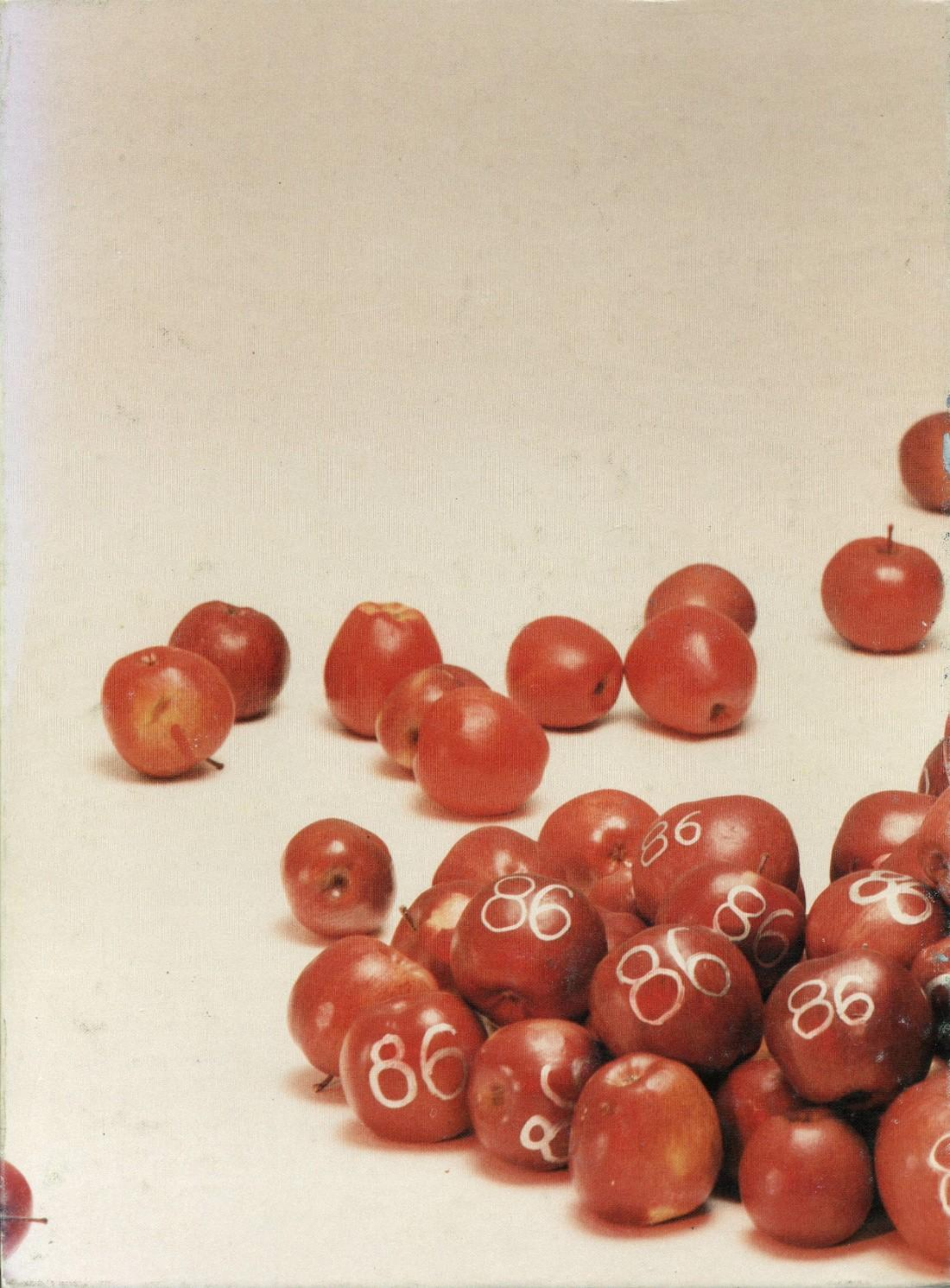
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